Daily Report

Latin America

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Topics of Central American Summit Disclosed

PA1306220090 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1458 GMT 13 Jun 90

[Text] Guatemala City, 13 Jun (ACAN-EFE) - During the presidential summit to open in Guatemala on Friday—with Panama participating as an observer—the five Central American countries will try to "reactivate and restructure" the area's common market, which was created in the late 1960's and which failed because of poor management and war.

The presidential summit, which will take place in Antigua Guatemala, 45 km from Guatemala City, will serve to lay the foundations for a new process of "integration for development," considered necessary by the Central American governments to consolidate peace in the area.

The presidents of Costa Rica, Guatemala, Honduras, El Salvador, and Nicaragua reached that conclusion at their last meeting on 3 April, held in the Nicaraguan beach resort of Montelimar. On that occasion they agreed that "the economic challenge must be faced to consolidate democracy once the obstacles for peace are removed."

A technical "aid" document, which was prepared by a multi-institutional commission endorsed by the United Nation's Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLA), noted that wars have paralyzed development in the area and caused a deterioration in living standards.

The document also recognizes that the traditional production levels in Central America did not vary, that wealth continues to be concentrated among small social groups while the majority of the 28.5 million inhabitants continue living in poverty, and that development was not real despite the initial success of interregional trade.

Central American experts who participated in the presidential summit as advisers said that the peace agreements are in danger if extreme poverty—which in Honduras alone affects 35 percent of the population—is not reduced and if the crisis affecting the middle class is not solved.

The prototypes for regional integration will "adapt to world changes, will be modern productive systems, will ensure the distribution of public expenses among grass roots sectors, and will correct macroeconomic imbalances."

In order to reactivate interreginal trade, plans include the creation of a Central American system of payments that will increase the volume of trade among the countries in the area and at the same time guarantee the normal functioning of foreign exchange systems in the Central American countries.

The creation of that system of payments will depend on the removal of obstacles in trade activities, customs restrictions, and unilateral discriminatory measures. These commitments were already made before the EEC representatives who participated in the financing of some integration projects.

The document on which the presidential debates will be based also proposes the creation of a Central American import tariff with uniform national timetables for reducing or establishing maximum or minimum tariffs.

The technical aid document does not recommend structural adjustment programs that "will not promote the development or strengthening of the region as a whole" and that will instead cause national interests to divert attention from regional interests.

On the contrary, the document calls for the establishment of a united Central American position that will permit joint negotiations on adjustments at a regional level.

In the document to be analyzed by the Central American presidents during their three-day working sessions, experts recommend harmonizing national macroeconomic policies with fiscal, foreign exchange, monetary, and credit policies.

The document also notes the need after 10 years of declared wars to restore the "Central American corridors," transportation means, telecommunications, and energy production and transmission.

The Central American Common Market, created in 1961, had compensatory mechanisms for payment and financing among countries in the area that became inoperative due to social and political conflicts in the area during the sixties.

A Central American Clearing House was created in 1962, and a Central American Monetary Council was created in 1964. There is a Central American Bank of Economic Integration that still exists but never fulfilled its commitment of financing national deficits resulting from interregional trade.

Central America also had a Central American Fund for Monetary Stabilization which was created in 1974 to correct temporary imbalances in the balance of payments.

Central American integration was defined during an "economic boom" when there was no awareness of the political and social crisis that lay ahead. There was too much optimism, according to experts, although the integration had some good initiatives that proved the effectiveness of multinational economic initiatives.

Three Nations Sign Narcotics Agreement

PY1306212990 Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 13 Jun 90 p 28

[Text] Yesterday, government representatives from Paraguay, Argentina, and Bolivia signed the so-called Asuncion Agreement through which the three countries

commit themselves to undertake joint actions to both prevent and repress drug trafficking activities. The meeting, which was held at the Interior Ministry building, started on 11 June and closed at noon on 12 June.

Some of the issues discussed refer to the importance of implementing similar legislation to allow better cooperation between the three countries, to share similar prevention plans, particularly in the education field, and to seek more effective joint repressive methods.

Hugo Estigarribia, Paraguayan Interior Ministry under secretary, said that the establishment of multilateral commissions to discuss different drug trafficking issues was one of the most important achievements of the meeting.

He said: "The meeting established different multilateral commissions to study several issues such as education and prevention, smuggling, and legislation."

He added: "Another issue that particularly interests Bolivia, and may be of interest to us in the future, is the alternative development of crops, that is, to replace coca farming with other crops that will allow us to eradicate coca farming. This is not an issue of concern for Paraguay or Argentina, but it may be interesting to learn from the experiences of others."

Estigarribia stated: "All of this will be discussed in future meetings. Argentina and Paraguay will hold a meeting in Resistencia, Argentina on 2-3 July. Argentina, Paraguay, and Bolivia will hold another meeting in Santa Cruz de la Sierra, Bolivia, in the second half of July." Regarding repressive activities, Estigarribia said that this "is one of the issues we discussed and within this context we will assess the coordination of repressive activities in border areas so as to be effective, because we know that much of narcotrafficking activities are centered in border areas."

Hugo Estigarribia, interior ministry under secretary; General Marcial Samaniego, coordinator of the National Narcotics Directorate [DINAR]; and Police Inspector Fulvio Aldama, DINAR head, among others, represented Paraguay at the meeting.

Alberto Eugenio Lestelle, state secretary for the coordination and prevention of drug-related affairs and narcotics struggle; Carlos Cagliotti, international affairs department general director; Police Inspector Luis Brizuela, national director of the drug smuggling control department represented Argentina.

Gonzalo Torrico, social defense under secretary and Erick Rivera Claussen, director of the international affairs in the struggle against drug trafficking, among others, represented Bolivia.

Cuba

Nation Prepares For 'Exceptional' Conditions

PA1406012690 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 1513 GMT 13 Jun 90

[Report by Juan Carlos Salazar]

[Text] Pinar del Rio, (Cuba) 13 Jun (DPA)—Rodolfo Gonzalez, Cuban Communist leader from the western Province of Pinar del Rio, asks: How much time do you think we can resist? "Indefinitely," he answers himself, as he proudly explains the measures the Castro government is adopting to face a possible interruption of Soviet supplies or U.S. military aggression.

Under the slogan "Socialism or death" launched by Fidel Castro six months ago in response to outside pressure to liberalize his regime as has happened in East Europe, Cuba has begun to prepare itself "for the worst"—survival in total economic and military isolation.

"We must be prepared," Fidel said, while warning the population of the possible implementation of "exceptional measures" amid times that are also exceptional. "What would we do if we started to get less fuel every day? If we were forced to stop certain things, what would we stop, where would we begin?" "If the circumstances get worse, how would we choose between this or that?" he asked.

Cuba, which has lived under a U.S. blockade for 30 years, has begun to feel the effects of the collapse of socialism in East Europe and the internal difficulties that are shaking up its main supplier, the USSR. Five months ago, a delay in the supply of flour forced Castro to increase the price of bread for the first time in three decades.

San Cristobal, a municipality in Pinar del Rio Province, 75 km west of Havana, is the "laboratory" where Cuba is rehearsing survival of a "special period" under extreme conditions. "We are trying to survive with the resources of the region, in a self-sufficient economy, without having to depend on foreign supplies," Rodolfo Gonzalez told DPA.

The challenge is twofold—guarantee the production of two sugar mills that produce 130,000 tons of sugar per year, and food and medical treatment for the 73,400 residents of the municipality by means of normal operation of the hospital and 14 agriculture cooperatives.

Some of the things that cannot be stopped, not even under unusual conditions, are the food programs and programs that generate foreign exchange. Defense reserves cannot be touched either, Castro has said. His government has just adopted measures to save 200,000 tons of fuel per year in the country's leading industries.

In the San Cristobal School, Pinar del Rio community leaders are showing off their "gas furnaces" [gasoferos], which were built in local workshops to produce energy using firewood or coal as a replacement for petroleum. "This small one can light up a home, and this other one can light up a school," Gonzalez says as he explains the capabilities of the device, which are lined up next to old "Jeeps" that have been fixed up to be pulled by animals and hundreds of appliances that have been rebuilt for the most different [words indistinct].

Jose Almeida, director of the Commander Pinar Hospital, is exhibiting the sodium chloride and tincture of iodine produced by his laboratory. He is also exhibiting the medicinal plants that are cultivated in the garden. Almeida shows the homemade needles and thread used for sutures made by nurses with henequen fibers to be used in case supplies are cut.

Almeida said that measures go all the way from herbalist medicines for the treatment of more than 300 diseases to the rational use of traditional resources that will allow Cuba "to cope with the effects" of a blockade in the health field.

Since last February, when experiments began, the hospital saved 10 percent of its annual budget.

"The idea is to face problems, whether the result of a scarcity of medicine, food, or fuel, by our own means using practical solutions and regional resources. Waste sugar cane pulp can be as useful as a windmill to generate power," said Gonzalez, who meets every day with other regional leaders to inform them of his experiments in San Cristobal.

According to Deputy Foreign Minister Oscar Oramas, the suspension in the supply of wheat flour was a "rich experience" because it has forced Cuba to resort to its own means and to seek "national solutions" for its problems.

"Under difficult circumstances, people and men rise to the occasion," Gonzalez said in an interview with DPA.

Students To Be Recalled From Hungary

LD1206193290 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 1900 GMT 12 Jun 90

[Text] Havana is to recall Cuban students studying in Hungary. According to the measure, at the end of the academic year, 70 university and high school students will have to return to Cuba.

Radio Marti Jammed in 70 Municipalities

FL1406114490 Havana Tele Rebelde Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 14 Jun 90

[Text] As our people are aware, the 24-hour-a-day neutralization of the anti-Cuban radio broadcasts on the frequency of 1180 kHz from the misnomered Radio Marti station began on 7 May in Havana City. It was announced that this neutralization would be extended gradually throughout the rest of the nation.

To date, and after conducting the appropriate studies, the technical tasks have been implemented that have, up to today, jammed the anti-Cuban signals in more than 70 of the most populated municipalities throughout the country, including all the provincial capitals, with the exception of Sancti Spiritus, Bayamo, and Guantanamo.

This work neither affects the quality nor the coverage of the radio broadcasts from our national, provincial, or local radio stations, which have maintained their normal service throughout the country. These measures safeguard our sovereignty and give an appropriate response to the flagrant violation of our radio-electric space. Our specialists and technicians continue their efforts so that the signal from the anti-Cuban radio station on medium-wave soon will be completely jammed throughout the entire nation, thus putting a permanent end to the problem originating from the attitude of interference and arrogance of the U.S. Administration, which unilaterally decided to usurp a radio frequency that we have the right to manage.

Commentary Views Ethnic Conflicts in USSR

FL1306192090 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 13 Jun 90

[Station commentary]

[Text] The demands for independence within the multinational Soviet state and the ethnic conflicts form part of the internal events in the USSR, with the obvious disorders these positions give rise to. The unilateral decision of the Baltic territories to declare their economic and political independence was joined by, among others, the declaration by the Russian Federation issued yesterday, which proclaims the supremacy of local legislation over the Soviet central government. This federation is 52 percent of the population of the USSR and three-fourths of its territory.

The expectation of these positions has made the central government study initiatives that could provide definitive solutions to these very complex events. Yesterday in the council of the Russian Federation, top leader Mikhail Gorbachev proposed the creation of a union of sovereign socialist states, which would stipulate the different relationships in the state structure to guarantee the political and economic sovereignty of the republics as well as their interactions. The presidents of the Baltic parliaments, present at this central meeting for the first time after the disagreements, did not hide his pleasure at the idea.

The union of sovereign socialist states would take into account the historic, national, economic, and cultural peculiarities of each republic and set up economic relations on a basis of equality and mutual benefit within the coming regulated market economy. In the analysts' opinion, it would be what some call the powerful binding force of a renewed union. If the plan prospered, it would call for a new federal treaty. For the moment the order was issued to form a working group made up of plenipotentiary representatives from all the republics to analyze and study the initiative.

The USSR is a multinational state made up of 15 autonomous republics and five regions. In this unity lies its strength. This is why the cohesion of these factors is essential in the political and economic power of the country. Perhaps, as the union is redefined as a group of voluntarily associated republics, a brake will be put on the nationalists' demands. The announced transition of the USSR to a regulated market economy requires above all internal stability, and this strategy is an attempt to obtain this calm.

Official Signs Agreements With Venezuela

FL1306182590 Havana Tele Rebelde Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 13 Jun 90

[Text] Venezuela and Cuba have signed seven cooperation agreements and a letter of intent during the second meeting of university presidents from the two countries, which is being held in Caracas. Cuban Vice Minister of Higher Education Rodolfo Alarcon Ortiz, who is heading the Cuban delegation to the meeting in the Venezuelan capital, told the press that the agreements between universities are in the areas of agroindustry, technical sciences, and agriculture and livestock.

After praising the quality of the meeting, which he saw as a step in integration, Alarcon Ortiz stated that the letter of intent signed at Simon Bolivar University includes issues for future agreements. What we have agreed on in Caracas is only the start of constructive, mutually beneficial cooperation, the Cuban vice minister of education stressed. The meeting between Cuban and Venezuelan university presidents will end on 18 June.

Panama's People's Party Rejects U.S. Pressure

PA1406043690 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 14 Jun 90

[Text] The Panamanian People's Party [PdP] has condemned the pressures the United States is exerting on the Panamanian Government to force it to break diplomatic relations with Cuba. According to the PdP, this could only lead to a greater isolation of the isthmian country. To break with Havana will make us more of a colony, warned the weekly UNIDAD, the Panamanian communist's newspaper. The PdP added that even the businessmen—through Ricardo Aleman, president of the Chamber of Commerce, Industries, and Agriculture—are urging the government to maintain trade relations with the island.

Machado Ventura Attends Santiago Plenum

FL1306190090 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 13 Jun 90

[Text] Direct and profound proposals concerning the basic problems holding back economic management in

Santiago de Cuba Province marked the first presentations that were given this morning at the special party plenum called to discuss as its sole point the document for the fourth party congress to be held in Santiago de Cuba in the first quarter of next year. The event is being presided over by Politburo members Jose Ramon Machado Ventura and Esteban Lazo Hernandez, as well as other party leaders, including alternate Politburo members Rosa Elena Simeon and Pedro Ross.

During the morning session, the debates focused the process of rectifying mistakes and negative tendencies in economic management. More than 10 comrades spoke on this point, referring to incorrect wage policy, employment, standards, inflated payrolls, incentives, and other points of great importance for good economic management. Party actions in the search for work methods and styles—in which the link with the masses and the issue of perfecting socialist democracy in party, state, government, and mass organizations stand out—will also be a subject of analysis. In addition to party cadres, more than 200 guests representing base- and intermediate-level party organizations, higher education centers, press organs, social organizations, and construction contingents are attending this special plenum.

Plenum Participants Comment

FL1406013090 Havana Television Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 14 Jun 90

[Report by Maria del Carmen Diaz from Santiago de Cuba]

[Text] The special plenum of the party's provincial committee in Santiago de Cuba is being presided over by Jose Ramon Machado Ventura and Esteban Lazo Hernandez, members of the Communist Party of Cuba Politburo.

Those attending the plenum discussed at lenght the subjective problems caused by the use of inflated payrolls. Because of its importance, one of the best discussions was the one related to the cadre policy. This subject generated concrete proposals for the call for the fourth party congress.

[Begin Lazo recording] I say the chief of an enterprise or a mess hall is in pretty bad shape if he has something that can spoil and lets it spoil. This is not a sign of responsibility or discipline. This is irresponsible. We have to separate the two things. We have to separate something that is true—it should be analyzed—which is why we have to ask so many questions and why things have to be descentralized. We have to see which things depend on the authority. There are people who do not like to have authority because they want to avoid problems. [end recording]

The need to charge for events offered to the people such as cultural and sports events so that ethical patterns are created was suggested.

[Begin unidentified speaker recording] There is no economic education. There is no economic awareness of our function in society. Health and education are guaranteed. They do not cost a thing. You go to a baseball game, and it does not cost a thing. You go to the Heredia St. show, and it does not cost a thing. You also know that everything is guaranteed, employment is guaranteed. There are a number of laws established in our country regarding this. I am going to tell you about my personal experience. What do the constituents talk about when the delegate reports back? About social problems. They complain about the butcher, the baker; they say a child care center is needed; they complain about the polyclinic.

They never talk about the economy. They never talk about the value of things, what it represents, or how the economic problem is. If we go to the people's government assembly in any municipality, in any province, and there are 10 points to discuss, nine of the points are hot if they have to do with asking for things, with complaining about something that does not work. When they get to the point of the budget, the economy, nobody has an opinion. Nobody has anything to say because we are not interested in that point. That point has been guaranteed. That is left up to the state. The state is the one that has to guarantee it.

I say that this has been ingrained in all our areas. I say that the lack of social discipline that exists, the lack of work discipline, the lack of economic discipline is nothing more than the lack of concrete actions to make people think. If a person does not get a good education at least he has to learn about practical things. [end recording]

At the time this report was being written, the discussion focused on the need to reaffirm the moral values of man in socialism.

Granma Province Holds Party Plenum

FL1306184090 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 13 Jun 90

[Text] Vital proposals on the need to delimit government and party powers in managing the economy were expressed this morning in the analysis of the document for the fourth party congress during the plenary session that is being held right now at the offices of the Granma Provincial Party Committee in Bayamo. Other points discussed concerned the bureaucratic mechanisms that use up paper and efforts in statistical information that is often not so necessary and distracts from more productive activities.

About 450 delegates are participating in this analysis of the document for the fourth party congress in Granma, representing workers, students, mass organizations, and social and economic sectors in the province. The meeting is being held with Politburo member Julian Rizo Alvarez as the chairman, and led by Roberto

Damian Alfonso, a member of the Central Committee and party first secretary in Granma.

Party Issues Discussed

FL1406023690 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 2300 GMT 13 Jun 90

[Report by Gisela Bel Heredia from Granma]

[Text] This has been a good practical exercise of the debate called for by the fourth party congress document. This was said by Politburo member Julian Rizo Alvarez during his closing remarks at the special plenum of the party's provincial committee in Granma. The analysis of the document in fact turns into a force to learn everything the population thinks about. Rizo reiterated that we should see this debate as a platform of the revolution.

The Politburo member participated in the two sessions of the special plenum which gathered over 300 comrades to analyze the document for the fourth party congress. The plenum was chaired by Roberto Damian Alfonso, member of the Communist Party of Cuba Central Committee and the party's first secretary in the province.

During the afternoon session, the delegates dealt with points related to the work of the party, its structure, working methods, and those of the Union of Young Communists and mass organizations. The similarities between the work of their departments and the administrative organizations were noted. The work of the people's government, its efforts, authority, and capabilities and selection of delegates were also discussed at the party meeting. Many discussed the need to define the activities of the party and management. Some said the number of peasants in the party should be increased because the party is the main ally of the working class. Remarks were also made about the audits conducted by members of economic systems of ministries, unions, and enterprises, which are not very reliable.

Dealing with another social problem, those attending the plenum discussed matters related to criminals. They said measures should not only be taken against criminals but also against those who are in charge of taking care of the property and do not do it.

There was much discussion during the morning session. A colleague told me: The things people talk about in the streets were talked about here.

In its first part, the participants of the plenum dealt with matters related to the economy. Along this line, it was said that the enterprise system is a bureaucratic apparatus in all the provincial areas and that there is a lack of specialized technicians in the community. Someone said: Sometimes things like these happen; the government does not have farming specialists in a mainly farming municipality.

The special party plenum in Granma Province touched on all the points included in the document for the fourth congress. The municipal plenums will be held soon to also analyze the document as a platform of the revolution, as Comrade Julian Rizo said today.

* New Law Ensures Jobs to Ex-Soldiers

90CA0051B Havana TRABAJADORES in Spanish 7 May 90 p 3

[Text] I, Fidel Castro Ruz, president of the Council of State of the Republic of Cuba, hereby declare that the Council of State has resolved as follows:

Whereas, Law 1255 of 2 August 1973 provides that citizens have an obligation to serve the Fatherland under arms in defense of its Socialist Revolution;

Whereas, Paragraph c) of Article 48 of Law No 49 of 28 December 1984 (Labor Code) establishes the call-up of workers for Active Military Service [SMA] as grounds for labor-contract termination, which means the end of these workers' labor relationship with their place of work and, consequently, the loss of the position or job that they had held;

Whereas, The workers referred to in the preceding whereas clauses who are discharging their sacred duty of defending the Socialist Fatherland merit special consideration; this means the right to rejoin their place of work after the period established for their obligations is over.

Therefore, the Council of State, by virtue of the authority that has been vested in it by Paragraph c) of Article 88 of the Constitution of the Republic, resolves to enact the following:

Decree-Law Number 120

Article 1. Paragraph c) of Article 48 of the Labor Code, Law No 49, of 28 December 1984 is hereby repealed; it establishes the call-up of a worker for Active Military Service as grounds for termination of the labor contract.

Article 2. The labor relationship of workers called up for SMA who are under a labor contract for an indefinite period shall be regarded as suspended for the entire period of compliance with this obligation, at the completion of which they may join their place of work in the job or position that they had previously held.

Article 3. Whatever organizational changes may be made in the workplaces of the workers called up to do their SMA shall not apply to the positions or jobs that they held, until they rejoin their workplaces.

Article 4. Workplaces may temporarily fill the position or job that the worked called up for SMA held for the entire time that the SMA lasts.

Final Provisions

First. The president of the State Committee for Labor and Social Security is empowered to enact whatever provisions are necessary to properly enforce the provisions of the present Decree-Law.

Second. Paragraph c) of Article 72 of Resolution No 51, of 12 December 1988, issued by the president of the State Committee for Labor and Social Security, is repealed, as are any existing legal and regulatory provisions that run counter to the provisions of this Decree-Law, which shall be in force as of its publication in the Official Gazette of the Republic.

Issued at the Palace of the Revolution in the City of Havana on 10 April 1990.

Fidel Castro Ruz, President of the Council of State

Official Gazette of the Republic Special Edition No 4 (10 April)

* Grain Cargo Rapidly Unloaded From Ships

90CA0051A Havana GRANMA in Spanish 21 Apr 90 p 1

[Report by Emilio del Barrio Menendez]

[Text] The unloading of grain from the freighters that have arrived in Cuba this year can be regarded as having gone well. We base this assessment on the absence of demurrage; that is to say, all of the freighters have been released ahead of the time set in trade agreements.

During the last 3 and ½ months the men on the grain chain have taken advantage of the intake capacity of port grain-elevators and of warehouses in the blending plants, have buckled down, and have made the unloading-transportation-receiving process as smooth as it needs to be.

March was a great month, as the combined forces at the marine terMinals of the Food Industry Ministry (Minal) and of the Union of Port Enterprises (third and fourth fronts) managed to get 210,500 tons out of the holds of merchant vessels. This is the largest amount that this reporter can remember.

April's pace has been comparable. According to estimates based on data that I have on my desk, if the daily averages hold, the month should close at some 205,000 tons.

If this happens (the rain has to be regarded as a setback) and on the basis of the arrivals confirmed for the next 11 days, May will begin with some 48,000 tons in transit by water. This bodes very well for the efficient handling of future shipments, "from the standpoint of the ports."

I deliberately said "from the standpoint of the ports" for a very good reason. In order for this specialized chain to perform its extremely important task as well as it has so far, three requirements must be met. First, the grain-elevator operators at the Minal Terminals must respond appropriately; then, there must be enough transportation capacity to haul all of the unloaded grain from these silos and from the conventional docks, and lastly the blending plants must receive this same amount promptly. This will insure that the trucks are soon back at the loading areas.

The situation today is not what it was at the beginning of the year, when storage capacity at ports and inland was practically unused. Therefore, the people in charge of this task must step up the pressure and achieve an operational level of organization and planning that is (why not?) nothing short of flawless.

I say this because in Santiago we are beginning to see problems from the saturation of grain elevators owing to restricted draw-offs. There are two main reasons for this: Transportation is inadequate, or industry has low incoming volumes.

On the basis of the cargo on vessels that have already anchored in Cuba and those that will be arriving from now until the end of the month, the other ports where grains are unloaded (Antillas, Cienfuegos, and Havana) should have no trouble keeping the grain chain free of demurrage.

Dominica

European Economic Officials Begin Discussions

FL1306182990 Bridgetown CANA in English 1535 GMT 13 Jun 90

[Text] Roseau, Dominica June 13, CANA—Two European Economic Commission officials are now in Dominica on a two-day official visit. Head of the Caribbean division of the Commission's Brussels headquarters, Dr. Rols Brenner is accompanied on his visit to the island by Barbados-based EEC delegate to the eastern Caribbean, Eberhard Stahn.

The two officials are meeting with Prime Minister Eugenia Charles and other ministers and top government officials. They are reportedly to continue discussions on projects for Dominica being developed under the new Lome IV Trade and Aid Convention between European countries and developing nations in Africa, the Caribbean, and the Pacific. The status of selected projects outstanding under Lome III will also be reviewed during the visit, officials of Dominica's Economic Development Unit have been quoted as saying.

Dominican Republic

Further Details on Final Election Results

FL1306173590 Santo Domingo Radio-Television Dominicana Radio Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 13 Jun 90

[Text] According to the preliminary information offered by the Central Electoral Board regarding the counting of the votes from the recent elections, the Social Christian Reformist Party and the Dominican Liberation Party

each obtained 17 and 12 senators, respectively, while the Dominican Revolutionary Party won only one senatorial seat.

According to the final counts, the ruling party won in the National District and Barahona, La Altagracia, Dajabon, Elias Pina, Monte Plata, Pedernales, San Cristobal, Baoruco, Samana, San Juan de la Maguana, Sanchez Ramirez, and Valverde Provinces. For its part, the Dominican Liberation Party won the elections in Santiago, Puerto Plata, La Romana, San Pedro de Macoris, Peravia, El Seibo, La Vega, Salcedo, and Santiago Rodriguez Provinces.

Commentary Says PLD Lacks Fraud Evidence

FL1306180090 Santo Domingo Radio-Television Dominicana Radio Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 13 Jun 90

["Today's Topic" commentary]

[Text] We are absolutely sure that the campaign the Dominican Liberation Party [PLD] has begun today, and which it proposes to carry out with greater emphasis on the international level, will end up diluted by its own inconsistencies. When one intends to damage, vilify, create falsehoods, and propose lies and distortions, one needs a lot of talent, but especially a lot of material on which to draw. That is, a lot of unchallengeable evidence and proof.

Although the PLD has talented people, it totally lacks unchallengeable evidence and proof. We have already said this many times, but now it is more important to stress it, since it has been announced that this afternoon Professor Juan Bosch will speak to his party's members, and his delegates are already abroad, sent to denounce to the United Nations and the OAS the supposed colossal fraud of which they were victims in the elections quagmire.

To respond to this foolishness, to show that the PLD is fighting a lost cause, we have only to say the following: The only electoral districts in which the elections were a quagmire, a colossal fraud, is where the PLD lost. Where the PLD won, there may have been irregularities, but they were elections in which the people voted en masse in favor of that political organization.

To date the PLD has not brought forth the least evidence of fraud. Its statements are limited to insubstantial irregularities in some cases and normal, natural irregularities in others, which could have hurt the PLD to the same extent they could have hurt the other parties.

In short, the PLD campaign will continue to weaken, and the people will verify that Professor Bosch, and his agents will play nothing more than the role of the boy who cried wolf to cover up his own faults. It is as simple as that.

Haiti

State Council Takes Stand Against Legagneur

FL1306173290 Port-au-Prince Radio Soleil Network in Creole 1100 GMT 13 Jun 90

[Text] The crisis between the State Council and provisional president Ertha Pascal Trouillot regarding the appointment of Mrs. Violene Legagneur to the head of the Finance and Economy Ministry a couple of weeks ago seems to be deteriorating, with both sides becoming more extreme. In a press communique, the State Council informed the public that in two letters it wrote Mrs. Trouillot—one at the end of May; another dated 4 June 1990—the Council told her it would not sign any executive act bearing the signature of Mrs. Violene Legagneur. The State Council says it will not sign any document Mrs. Legagneur might sign for the executive branch of the government. The State Council says that, consequently, it cannot endorse any treaty, agreement, decree, or decree-law as per the protocol agreement of 4 March 1990.

The protocol agreement of 4 March 1990 required that all agreements, treaties, or decree-laws signed by the executive be co-signed by the State Council. However, when the executive branch of the government signs these things, this means that the cabinet will sign too; thus, Mrs. Legagneur will also sign. The State Council says that as far as it is concerned, Mrs. Legagneur is not a minister, for the protocol agreement of 4 March 1990 was not respected as regards her appointment. Therefore, the State Council advises the public that in the two letters it wrote Mrs. Trouillot, it informed her that the State Council will not sign any document signed by the executive branch of the government that has Mrs. Legagneur's name on it.

Interviews Provide Election Insight

FL1306163090 Port-au-Prince Radio Nationale in French 1700 GMT 12 Jun 90

[Italicized passages recorded in Creole]

[Excerpts] Provisional Electoral Council [CEP] president Jean-Robert Sabalat has explained that the success of the coming elections implies participation by the press, the candidates, and the voters. Under the heading "Life of the Parties," Jean-Marie Ferrari gives us some details.

[Ferrari] *Today is 12 June. In another 90 days, elections will be held throughout the country. Many observers, political leaders, and others are wondering, however, how there will be time to manage to mobilize people as in 1987. Some people think it will be easy; others say many people are not interested. There are many questions being asked about these elections, but the most important thing is to be able to re-create the popular mobilization and mobilize the electorate. But who is going to do this?*

[CEP President Jean-Robert Sabalat] *The leaders, the press, and everyone interested in having elections in Haiti*

are going to make an effort, each in his own sphere, to try to mobilize the electorate once again. This is going to be a big job, and naturally this work is going to (?fall to the press) [words indistinct] work of civic education focused on the elections that we are going to hold. If, however, we succeed in effecting this popular mobilization....[changes thought] And I would like for it to be like the mobilization that existed in 1987. But even if it fails to reach that level, if (?we do) mobilize the population to any extent on the elections, I think we should move quickly to take advantage of that mobilization, so that it will not peter out.

The CEP's force, its ability to realize successfully the elections it is going to hold, will come from this popular mobilization—as, in fact, Emmanuel Ambroise stated.

[Ambroise] *In 1987, the CEP's force came from its popular support, and what allowed us to have popular support was the press—an active press, a press acting positively; not a press that was solely sensationalist, denouncing this person and that person. That too is important; however, without the press many things cannot be done. This press support is necessary so that the CEP can hold elections in a fully, [repeats] fully, successful manner.* [passage omitted]

Attorney Francois Latortue's Model *PRDH [Democratic Movement for the Liberation of Haiti/Democratic Revolutionary Party of Haiti] is currently choosing its candidates for deputies and senators in the coming elections.* [passage omitted]

[Reporter] *So you are going to participate at all levels in the elections?*

[Latortue] *Yes. All, from Casecs [Administrative Council for the Communal Section] to....*

[Reporter] *And at the level of deputies and senators, do you have....*

[Latortue] *Oh, yes, both deputies and senators. Of course our lists are not yet complete, because some people are still hesitant because they say they do not know how the elections are going to unfold, or even whether there will be elections. So, I mean, there are people who are hesitating. That is why our list of candidates is not yet complete. We already, however, have some.*

[Ferrari] *Latortue gave us the names of two or three people who are to run for his party as candidates for senator or deputy. For example, in Jacmel, he has former public prosecutor Placide Alcindor, who is going to run for the senate. Victor Lafontant will also be a candidate to the senate for Modelh/PRDH, and others.* [sentence as heard] [passage omitted]

According to Martial Celestin, second in command of the RDNP [Assembly of Progressive National Democrats], RDNP head Leslie Manigat is currently finishing up all his business overseas. [passage omitted]

Celestin told us Professor Manigat is supposed to free himself from all his activities overseas. This means that he will be returning to Haiti soon. [passage omitted]

[Announcer] *Sabalat was not the only person to give his opinion on the organizing of the coming elections. Diverse party leaders have also stated their opinions on the matter and made suggestions.*

[Reporter] *Louis Seize France tells us about this.*

[France] [passage omitted] *We interviewed Dr. Turneb Delpe, secretary general of the PNDPH [National Democratic and Progressive Party of Haiti], who said it would be preferable to respect the transitory dispositions contained in the Constitution instead of getting into details. If not, elections (?would have to be) held during the last week of November.* [as heard]

[Delpe] *I can understand that the CEP had to respect the spirit of the Constitution. However, to reinstate the (?spirit of the Constitution) the way it has is a way to make this government not exactly carry out the mission entrusted to it. I mean, if we are in a special situation, we should have had a special government capable of taking the measures necessary to create the conditions [remainder of sentence indistinct]. They, however, delved into the Constitution, and the Constitution says clearly that there should be general elections in this country during the last week of November.* [passage omitted]

[France] *Regarding the insecurity in Haiti, which is very compatible with elections [as heard], Dr. Delpe said he thinks it is up to the authorities to find a way to solve this problem, but that it is certain men currently leading the country that do not want to shoulder the responsibility who will allow them to solve this problem.*

[Delpe] [passage omitted] *We ourselves do not think the problem is that the matter of insecurity cannot be solved, or that there is no solution to it. We think, rather, that the problem lies in the kind of men who are heading this government—who do not have the courage, who do not want (?to make the) historic (?gesture) required today.* [passage omitted including indistinct portions]

[France] *Rockefeller Guerre, leader of the UPD [Union of Democratic Patriots] does not think that, given the current climate of insecurity, elections will be possible. He also thinks that timewise, elections should be held so as to allow the new president to take the oath of office on 7 February 1991.*

[Guerre] *(?Given the) extremely disquieting climate of insecurity, we still do not really know if the electoral process can get under way (?well), considering such insecurity.* [brief distortion of recording] *We ask the CEP to try to apply the spirit of the Constitution and to try to use the spirit of the Constitution of 1987 as a compass. This Constitution says the president should be sworn in on 7 February. Thus, if the president is supposed to be sworn in on 7 February, we do not see the need for them to rush to hold elections in August or July or September. They have*

enough time to set up electoral rolls, take all the measures necessary to restore the population's confidence in the electoral process, and arrive at [words indistinct] elections that will permit the president to take the oath of office on 7 February.

[France] *On the day of the CEP news conference, CEP member Emmanuel Ambroise took advantage of the occasion to call on the public and the press to participate in motivating the population so that it will participate in the coming elections.* [passage omitted]

We remind listeners that last week several political leaders declared themselves candidates to the presidency—such as Daniel Narcisse, at a news conference he held; and Wisler Pierre-Louis, who said he was announcing the existence of his political party to the general public.

Panpra Evaluates Government's First 100 Days

FL1306170990 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole in French 1600 GMT 12 Jun 90

[Text] Serges Gilles' Panpra [Nationalistic and Progressive Revolutionary Party of Haiti] has drawn up a balance sheet of the first 100 days of the Trouillot government. The evaluation of the government's first 100 days is rather full of nuances, in fact mitigated, Panpra stresses in its "Letter From Haiti No. Three, Series Two."

Although to the government's credit is its choice of a number of ministers widely known to be committed to democracy, its appointment of citizens reputed to be honest to head other ministries, a few changes of heads of certain administrations—for example, Port-au-Prince City Hall—the arrest of a few evildoers by the Army, and the setting of a deadline for the end of the provisional government's mandate, it must nevertheless be noted—says Panpra—that the results of these first months do not fully satisfy the population's expectations. There is an administrative mess, persistent insecurity, and a lack of openness on the financial level.

Panpra points out that the appointment of Mrs. Legagneur to head the Finance Ministry and other less-noticed appointments in certain administrations could indicate a dangerous tendency on the part of this government to take the path of personal decisions. Panpra wonders if the executive's initiatives should be attributed to the president herself or to one of her advisers, who because of lack of political acumen [clairvoyance], failed to understand the reasons for the failure of the preceding transitional governments.

(?The government's) initiatives—explains Panpra—have given rise to concern in the democratic sector as a whole, causing the parties that are members of the Assembly for Concerted Action to wonder about the president's intentions. These parties are thus reportedly increasingly tempted to once again question whether or not they should be supporting Mrs. Trouiliot's government, Panpra says. The party notes: This situation strengthens the position of certain Duvalierists, who are already trying to exploit the differences between the president and the State Council. In view of such a juncture, Panpra thinks the executive and State Council, as well as the political parties and all the nation's vital forces, should give priority to the nation's higher interests, which—says Panpra—(?require) a spirit of consensus, a struggle against the forces that are against change, and a rejection of any and all radicalism inappropriate to the juncture to, instead, give priority to clear economic choices that will lead the nation toward progress and independence.

In conclusion, Panpra points out that Mrs. Trouillot's interest lies—if she understands it well and really wants to carry out her mandate successfully—in governing in full agreement with the State Council, which must, for its part, show political maturity. This is the only way to restore confidence to the population and get it to participate massively in the elections, which is essential for the credibility of the government issuing from the elections, says Serges Gilles' party.

President Comments on Plans for Free Trade Group

PA1306122390 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0227 GMT 13 Jun 90

[Report by Roberto Vivanco]

[Text] Tuxtla Gutierrez, Chiapas, Mexico, 12 Jun (NOTIMEX)—President Carlos Salinas de Gortari announced here today that his administration has initiated contacts with the Canadian Government to establish a free trade agreement between the two countries.

The president said that he instructed Commerce Secretary Jaime Serra Puche to go to Canada from Washington this morning. The commerce secretary is to talk with his Canadian counterpart in order to maintain good communications and begin establishing the conditions for formal talks in the future on a free trade agreement.

President Salinas de Gortari was interviewed during a tour of Chiapas, after he had presided over a meeting with the Indian State Council at the regional museum in Tuxtla Gutierrez.

The president said: "We are not trying to establish a common market with the United States and Canada on the order of the one that exists in Europe, but rather a free trade agreement that distinguishes itself from the common market concept.

"All we are talking about here is a free exchange of goods. This would undoubtedly help create the largest market in the world, made up of Mexico, the United States, and Canada."

The president said that talks and negotiations on a free trade agreement will be carried out first with the United States and later with Canada.

The chief executive said that the economies of Mexico and Canada will complement each other, "which will give us an edge over everybody in international competition."

He pointed out that during his visit to Mexico, Canadian Prime Minister Brian Mulroney said that his government is interested in keeping abreast "in order to prepare the way for an open dialogue that will be held later."

Salinas said that during his meeting in Washington with President George Bush, the problem of the team of U.S. military advisers allegedly stationed at the U.S. Embassy in Mexico "was completely resolved."

He emphasized that "there were no advisers, according to our information, and there will be none either. This is what we clearly established" at the U.S. capital.

At the meeting with the representatives of the Indian State Council, the chief executive reported that, like the trips he has made and will make in the future, his trip to Washington was aimed at strengthening sovereignty.

These trips are meant "to strengthen respect for our self-determination and our decisions on how to do things, as well as to open opportunities so that the interrelationship with other nations will benefit Mexicans," he said.

Salinas said that he has once again confirmed that Mexico is increasingly respected abroad. He stated that this increasing respect is the result of Mexico's firm and clear foreign policy, which is based on respect for the people's right to self-determination, on the principle of nonintervention in other nations's domestic affairs, on the support for the peaceful solution of conflicts, and on the contribution to world peace.

In his message to the Indians, President Salinas asserted that what Mexico demands from other countries is respect for its sovereignty, fairer relations among nations, and recognition of the decisions and actions that affect us all.

Salinas also referred to the serious risks that Mexico is facing in the struggle against drug trafficking since it has 3,000 km of border with the world's largest drug consumer, the United States.

Salinas said these risks will be overcome through the most strict compliance with the law. Salinas added: "No one should have the least doubt; no one is above the law. Every person who commits a crime will be punished because that is the demand of the Mexican people."

During the ceremony, which was also attended by Governor Patrocinio Gonzalez Garrido, President Salinas announced that this year the government will give 120 billion pesos to help the Indian communities of the state of Chiapas. These resources will come from the National Solidarity Program and from the state government.

Salinas said that the use of resources to help Indian communities this year is unprecendented, although he admitted that "the needs and backwardness that Chiapas State—especially the Indian communities in that state—is facing are also unprecedented."

Cardenas Opposes Trade Agreement With U.S.

PA1406021890 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0225 13 Jun 90

[Text] Hermosillo, 12 Jun (NOTIMEX)—Cuauhtemoc Cardenas, national coordinator of the Party of the Democratic Revolution [PRD], stated today that a free trade agreement between Mexico and the United States "would be unfavorable for Mexicans." The PRD leader said that opening up Mexico's national border to trade with the neighboring country "would have grave consequences, because many companies would disappear and workers would be dismissed en masse." Cardenas Solorzano, who began a two-day visit to Sonora State, proposed that instead of a free trade agreement, "the national productive plan should be modernized, with the

participation of the companies' employers and employees." Mexican President Carlos Salinas de Gortari and U.S. President George Bush announced yesterday in Washington the start of formal talks to analyze a possible commercial agreement.

The PRD leader said that Mexico "could only contribute a cheap labor force, and the productive plant will suffer when industries close within the framework of the bilateral agreement with the United States." In addition, he said the national renewal program of the Institutional Revolutionary Party "is worn out," and that "I belonged to that party, and its militants would welcome its democratization." "I participated in the PRI, but I am not resentful of the system, because I am defending the same principles, proposals, and actions. I broke away out of necessity," he noted.

Concerning an order by the Federal Electoral Commission that the PRD change its emblem, Cardenas said that his party will strive to keep it with the colors green, white, and red. On the matter of the elections held in Urupan, Michoacan State, where the PRI won, he said the PRD will demand the annulment of the elections on the grounds that the state electoral law was violated. "We will challenge the elections through legal means, before the State Electoral Commission and the Michoacan State Congress, and later we shall see," he remarked.

U.S. Fishing Boat Seized 10 Jun

PA1306164090 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2129 GMT 12 Jun 90

[Text] Tampico, Tamaulipas, 12 Jun (NOTIMEX)—The First Naval Zone has reported that the U.S. registered vessel, "Tormentor," which was seized by the Mexican Navy on 10 June for illegally fishing in territorial waters, arrived in Tampico today.

Armando Espindola Bernal, commander of the naval zone, explained that the boat was seized by minesweeper No. 014, which was on patrol duty out of the El Mesquital port, off the Tamaulipas coast in the Gulf of Mexico.

He added that this is the second U.S. vessel seized for violating Mexican waters so far this year. He said the other ship, the "Rubina B," was caught fishing illegally at the same site.

The "Tormentor" has been turned over to the Tampico port and fishing authorities. This afternoon the members of its crew will identify themselves and give their official statements.

Costa Rica

Calderon on 11 Jun Meeting With FMLN Leaders

PA1306031890 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0027 GMT 13 Jun 90

[Text] San Jose, 12 Jun (EFE)—Costa Rican President Rafael Angel Calderon announced today that he met with representatives of the Salvadoran guerrillas on Monday in San Jose.

During an impromptu news conference, Calderon said that members of the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front [FMLN] visited him to inform him of their talks with President Alfredo Cristiani's government.

The president did not offer details of what was discussed during the meeting; however, he did say that he had invited them to lunch and that he had been able to see that they are "optimistic."

"They believe they can reach a satisfactory agreement" with the Salvadoran Government, Calderon said.

The Costa Rican president added that he had offered the help of his country "to bring the parties in conflict closer." Calderon stressed that his Social Christian government will try to help as much as possible while "respecting the internal affairs of each nation."

The Costa Rican president said that it would be very satisfying to be able to help the parties in conflict reach negotiated solutions that will put an end to the bloodshed in El Salvador that has already claimed 70,000 lives in 10 years of war.

Helping, he added, is a Costa Rican tradition that the current government will continue to practice, Calderon told the press.

Meanwhile, Salvadoran President Alfredo Cristiani met on Monday in San Salvador with UN Special Envoy Alvaro de Soto, who participated as a mediator at the meeting between the government and the guerrillas held in Caracas between 16 and 22 May. At that meeting the two parties agreed to hold another meeting in mid-June; however, the date and place have not been disclosed.

Alvaro de Soto met recently in Havana with members of Fidel Castro's government. Castro has been accused by Cristiani of supplying the FMLN with weapons.

El Salvador

Interparty Commission To Talk With Castro

PA1306215890 San Salvador TCS Television in Spanish 1215 GMT 13 Jun 90

[Text] Members of the interparty commission will meet with Cuban President Fidel Castro. Dagoberto Marroquin, leader of the National Conciliation Party [PCN], has reported that this meeting will be held within the next 15 days as part of the interparty commission's work for peace. Talking with Castro is just as important as talking with the United States, he said, because everyone is aware of the assistance that the FMLN [Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front] receives from Cuba.

[Begin Marroquin recording] The meeting has been agreed upon. All we have to do is establish a suitable date to talk and discuss relevant topics with Castro. Although Salvadoran President Alfredo Cristiani has asked Mexican President Carlos Salinas de Gortari to mediate, we of the political parties believe that the Salvadorans will be better able to talk to Castro on topics such as logistics, which deals with aid for the FMLN. [end recording]

In addition, the conservative leader is concerned about how justice is administered in the country and if anyone trusts the administration of justice in El Salvador. He said that the most likely answer would be no.

[Begin Marroquin recording] We are considered troglodytes abroad because of the way we administer justice. Look, the aid from the United States the EEC is being jeopardized because both the United States and the EEC countries see the deplorable way in which we administer justice. [end recording]

Marroquin mentioned the assassination of six priests and two maids, saying that Salvadoran justice will have to be vindicated. He described the demilitarization of the Salvadoran people as a slow yet necessary process. Within this process, it is necessary to consider the FMLN's demobilization and its incorporation into civilian life, as well as the reduction of the number of Armed Forces members, he said.

FMLN Demands Country's Demilitarization

PA1306232890 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSU in Spanish 2146 GMT 12 Jun 90

[Communique issued by the Joint Command of the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front, FMLN, Modesto Ramirez Central Front; place and date not given]

[Text] The country's demilitarization and the end of impunity in our country are essential conditions for democracy and peace in El Salvador.

The text of the message signed by the FMLN [Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front] Joint Command of the Modesto Ramirez Central Front states:

The Salvadoran military is above the law and above civilian society. The Armed Forces coerce, hinder, and corrupt the administration of justice. The investigation of the Jesuit massacre is an example of this. The Salvadoran High Command has shamelessly ordered the destruction of evidence, has caused witnesses to disappear, and has distorted testimony to protect the fraternity of La Tandona [members of the 1966 graduating class of the Captain Gerardo Barrios Military Academy], the brains behind the Jesuit massacre. Another clear

example of the inefficiency of the country's judicial system, which is the result of military coercion, is the outrageous acquittal of the soldier who killed journalist Mauricio Pineda in cold blood in March 1989.

The Armed Forces are a political, economic, and moral albatross that is holding back Salvadoran society's overall development. The FAES [Armed Forces of El Salvador] systematically violates human rights and is repudiated by most Salvadorans.

The Security Corps and the Civilian Defense Groups consist of criminals and corrupt individuals who promote the dirty war against our people. The FAES is the country's real political power. It simply uses Cristiani's civilian government as a front. The FAES is also the instrument used by an oligarchic minority, which intends to reinforce its political and economic privilege through its rejection of true democracy for the people.

Ten years of U.S. military intervention has only worsened the repressive and antidemocratic essence of the FAES. The U.S. Government and Congress are morally and politically responsible for the thousands of crimes committed by the FAES, for the Jesuit massacre, the Fenastras [Salvadoran Workers National Union Federation] workers massacre, and the murder of Msgr. Romero.

Cristiani and Arena [Nationalist Republican Alliance] are covering for the military men who ordered the Jesuits' murder and are accomplices in the crimes committed by the High Command. The Arena government instigated the Jesuits' murder through its national radio network.

Cristiani personally approved the High Command's plans to conduct indiscriminate bombing in densely populated areas of San Salvador. Immediately after the Jesuits' murder, Cristiani repeatedly held the FMLN responsible for the crime. As a result of foreign pressure, Cristiani was forced to admit the military responsibility in the crime against the Jesuits, and yet he tried by all means to hinder and discredit the findings of various private and government investigations that implicated the High Command in the Jesuit massacre. The country's former attorney general defended the military involved in the case and publicly reiterated their innocence.

The main obstacle to peace and the establishment of true democracy in El Salvador is the Armed Forces. Therefore, the FMLN reiterates its complete determination to struggle until it achieves the purging, reduction, and restructuring of the Armed Forces, as well as their subordination to a civilian authority freely elected by the people.

The FMLN calls on all the country's social and political groups to mobilize and make statements to attain the country's demilitarization, a basic and essential condition to attaining a pluralist democracy in our country.

[Signed] The Joint Command of the Modesto Ramirez Central Front

Honduras

'Banana War' Ends with Agreement Among Companies

PA1306022290 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0252 GMT 11 Jun 90

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 10 Jun (EFE)— The so-called "banana war" involving a U.S. multinational company, the British Fyffes consortium, and Honduran producers has ended with a historic agreement that marks the end of nearly half a century of U.S. monopoly over the marketing of the fruit.

Because of the importance of the conflict, the final negotiations were headed by Robert Kissinger, vice president of the "Chiquita Banana" company, Neil McCann, president of Fyffes, and Arsensio Echeverry, president of the Agricultural and Cattle-Raising Company of Sula (CAGSA).

The negotiations began on 8 June and ended on 9 June with an agreement that will be released on 11 June. According to the agreement to which EFE had access, CAGSA will be able to sell nearly 60 percent of its production to "Chiquita" and 45 percent to Fyffes until December 1990.

From January to 9 April 1991, it will sell 55 percent to "Chiquita" and 45 percent to Fyffes. Then CAGSA will be free to sell all its production to Fyffes, owned by British-Irish capital.

A source who participated in the negotiations commented to EFE that "with this agreement, the Honduran producers free themselves from the absolute control of the U.S. multinational companies, which have imposed their prices and conditions" when purchasing fruit from local producers.

After 14 hours of intense discussions, CAGSA also got "Chiquita" to promise to pay for the bananas in dollars and not in lempiras (the Honduran currency). This sets a precedent for other Latin American producers who receive local currency when they sell their crops to multinational companies.

"Chiquita," through its subsidiary, the Tela Railroad Company, will initially pay $3 for each 18-kg box of bananas it buys while Fyffes will offer $4.40.

A producer stressed that "to date, we were paid with a devalued currency, but in the future the prices will depend on the law of supply and demand."

Fyffes will be able to market the Honduran bananas in Europe. Honduras is the world's third largest producer of the fruit, after Ecuador and Costa Rica.

On 11 June Frost Cetus, the ship which has been anchored in port for the past month, will be able to load

the first shipment of approximately 60,000 boxes of bananas with which the British consortium will gain a firm foothold in Honduras. It will invest several million dollars in the establishment of a new mixed capital shipping company.

Fyffes also plans to market citrus fruits, pineapples, melons, and other Honduran products. It has already made its first investments by supporting farmers in this country to guarantee the supply of fruits to the new markets in Eastern Europe.

The agreement signed yesterday included a section in which "Chiquita" and Fyffes promised to mutually support each other in the transportation of the fruit to the European markets.

With the end of the "banana war," the executives of the two multinational companies are already talking of a new bilateral relationship, symbolized by the fact that the Fyffes delegation traveled to the United States on 9 June on an airplane owned by "Chiquita."

The executives of the two companies decided that the pending negotiations, which will address possible compensations for approximately $5 million in losses in production and investments during the conflict, will be "confidential."

The peace between multinational companies and Honduran producers comes 77 days after workers of the Tela Railroad Company prevented a ship, Casablanca, from sailing with 51,593 boxes of bananas bought by Fyffes for the FRG market.

Nicaragua

Reportage on Radio Nicaragua Takeover

Workers Occupy Station

PA1306212690 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 2050 GMT 13 Jun 90

[Editorial Report] Managua Domestic Service in Spanish at 2050 GMT on 13 June carried the following announcement:

"Attention, attention, attention: The Radio Nicaragua workers are, at this very moment, demanding the presence of the media at the radio station. Attention, attention: Radio Nicaragua, Radio Sandino, La Primerisima, BARRICADA, EL NUEVO DIARIO—the Radio Nicaragua workers are demanding your presence at our radio station to cover the situation we are currently experiencing. The Radio Nicaragua workers have taken over the installations of this radio station because we need to reach an agreement regarding our wages.

Attention, attention: We ask Radio Nicaragua, Radio Ya, Radio Sandino, La Primerisima, BARRICADA, EL NUEVO DIARIO, Sistema Nacional de Television, and Extravision, to come to our radio station. We are also asking all reporters who are interested in helping us report on this situation to come to Radio Nicaragua right now. The workers are demanding the help of media workers throughout the country.

Attention, attention, to the media."

Workers Make Demands

PA1306221890 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 2118 GMT 13 Jun 90

[Text] Nicaraguan people, at this moment the workers of Radio Nicaragua are occupying this radio station to demand the payment of our May and June wage increases, which have neither been paid in a satisfactory manner nor in accordance with our country's laws and the decrees issued by Nicaraguan President Violeta Barrios de Chamorro.

We, the workers, will continue to actively occupy this radio station with an unyielding attitude to urgently demand the payment of our wages, because our comrades's situation is extremely chaotic. We need the money.

Dr. Danilo Lacayo [Director of Information and Press of the Nicaraguan Presidency] called us a few minutes ago and talked to me, Bernardo Hernandez, secretary general of organization, to ask us to form a committee and come to the Presidency to discuss the situation and find a satisfactory solution to the problem. We told him, however, that we had exhausted all administrative efforts. We told him that even the media had stated that our labor union had been willing to go to the Presidency before. The media stated that we had sent a letter to the Presidency asking Lacayo to meet with us and he refused to do so. He granted us an appointment, but failed to show up on the appointed day.

Lacayo just told us on the phone that our comrade from the Jose Benito Escobar Sandinist Central Organization of Workers [CST] could not attend the meeting. That comrade is the one in charge of media labor conflicts. We want to tell the Nicaraguan people, all mass organizations, and all journalist associations including the UPN [Union of Nicaraguan Journalists] and the National Workers Front that we are here and that Mr. Danilo Lacayo has just said that he will be here at the Radio Nicaragua facilities within an hour to solve the problem. However, he only wants to meet with the members of the Radio Nicaragua labor union and not with CST Comrade Adalberto Mercado. Adalberto Mercado, however, is helping us, the workers, with this problem.

We want to tell the Nicaraguan people that we have never refused to do our job. On the contrary, we have been working for almost 24 hours, 0300 to 2100 or 2200, until all the radio stations were coordinated and organized.

We, the workers, have done nothing to—how can I put it—promote a boycott or sabotage. We have been working toward and negotiating our demands. However,

the situation has become difficult because we are not receiving specific answers. Therefore, we wish to advise the people, CST Secretary General Lucio Jimenez, and the National Workers Front that the union and Comrade Adalberto Mercado—who will be representing us—will be present at the talks. Adalberto Mercado is the person who represents us when conflicting situations develop. We wish to add this: We are going to remain firm in our position. If they come in good faith and if they really want to talk and find a satisfactory solution, then there is no reason why the CST representative cannot be present with the workers.

We know that he is bringing another package that will not contain specific solutions. We want him to know that we know this. If he had specific solutions to offer, he would have called on the phone and said: I am going to solve this right now; I am on my way. The fact that a representative and the press are here would not bother him. If he was acting in good faith he would be on every front page tomorrow saying that they did their job and that solving this problem should be an example for other workers. But the fact that he refused to accept this can only mean that he is bringing another package to Radio Nicaragua.

Radio Workers Demand Salaries

PA1306234890 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 2146 GMT 13 Jun 90

[Statement by Radio Nicaragua Labor Union, read by unidentified union member in Managua—live]

[Text] [Union member] People of Nicaragua, at 1545 we met with Doctor Danilo Lacayo, director of information and press of the Presidency, who a short time ago called this radio station by telephone to talk with the [Radio Nicaragua] labor union. The union's position was that he must come to the facility to negotiate because of the abnormal situation.

We, the workers of Radio Nicaragua, hereby inform the people that in an authoritative manner, showing contempt for the labor union and for CST [Sandinist Central Organization of Workers] representative Comrade Alberto Mercado, Lacayo said that this individual—referring to the comrade from the CST—has no part in this affair. We told him that the workers at Radio Nicaragua are affiliates and legal members of the CST, and we explained that the issue at hand is our salaries. Our position involves our salaries; the problem is our salaries—not politics, as he might tell the judicial authorities.

We are hereby informing the police that the problem at hand is our salaries and that we have exhausted every administrative recourse. We would like to make it clear to the Nicaraguan people and to the mass media that we have failed in this first attempt at dialogue. Therefore, to the extent that the situation may become increasingly radical, we will adopt firm positions. For example, as of this moment, we have initiated an escalated work stoppage. If solutions are not found, we will gradually suspend programs and demand our salaries for May and June. The workers can no longer stand this difficult situation at Radio Nicaragua.

Alberto Mercado of the CST will speak to you now.

[Mercado] Comrade, I would like to publicly reject the proud and contemptuous attitude adopted by Dr. Danilo Lacayo, director of information and press of the Presidency, who has refused to accept the CST's presence in the negotiations concerning the conflict that has emerged at Radio Nicaragua. I believe that this attitude flagrantly violates all the agreements reached by the National Workers' Front with the Labor Ministry and the Presidency representative. As Bernardo said, they are forcing us to adopt increasingly radical positions, which we consider quite a delicate issue.

These gentlemen claim to promote a climate of stability and reconciliation, but their speeches contradict their practices. From this perspective we support the belligerent attitude adopted by the workers at Radio Nicaragua. We are asking the workers of the industrial sector, the northern highway, and the media to come to Radio Nicaragua's facilities so that as a bloc we can adopt an attitude for reaching satisfactory agreements that will resolve the labor conflicts experienced by the Radio Nicaragua workers.

[Union member] We, the members of the union and all of the workers at Radio Nicaragua, must also make the following report: At this station we have broadcast speeches by leaders of the new government in which they have said that they respect freedom of expression. Dr. Danilo Lacayo has just thwarted this freedom by refusing to allow our comrade from the CST to speak. He said that he could attend the meeting only as an observer, without having a say in the matter.

I repeat, Comrade Mercado is from the CST, and we, as CST affiliates and workers, demand that Comrade Mercado be allowed to participate in the negotiations, although they are not really negotiations. We demand our salaries—we demand our salaries for May and June. Where is the negotiation in this? The entire problem would be resolved immediately if we were to be paid right now. They say they will pay us tomorrow, we will sign, and the entire problem will be solved. We do not know why Comrade Mercado has not been accepted when we are demanding our salaries. The problem at hand pertains to our salaries, not politics. We are informing the government minister and the Sandinist Police that the problem is our salaries, not politics. We demand our salary readjustment, and we are here waiting for Danilo Lacayo and Frank Arana, director of this radio station, to reach a satisfactory solution to this problem.

At this moment we are beginning our escalated broadcast work stoppage. At this very moment we will cut the station off for one minute to protest this situation.

Government, Workers Reach Agreement

PA1406012790 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0027 GMT 14 Jun 90

["Text" of agreement reached between the government and the Radio Nicaragua workers signed at Radio Nicaragua station in Managua; read by Labor Affairs Secretary (Dimas Bau)—live]

[Text] Dr. Danilo Lacayo, director of Information and Press of the Presidency; Frank Arana Icaza, Radio Nicaragua general director; Roger Guardado; Radio Nicaragua administrative and financial director; Bernardo Hernandez, (Jose Dimas Bau), Jose Luis Zapata, Fatima Arrocha, Nubia Caceres, Alejandro Gomez, Julio Mendoza, Lester Amaya, all members of the Radio Nicaragua Camilo Ortega Saavedra Union; and Adalberto Mercado, leader of the Jose Benito Escobar Sandinist Central Organization of Workers [CST], met at the Radio Nicaragua locale and reached the following agreement:

1. To continue the legal approach, as established in the Labor Law, to solve the case of the 24 workers who were fired between 1 and 4 June. This will be done in accord with the agreement reached among the Labor Ministry, the union, and the administration on Wednesday, 13 June 1990.

2. To proceed immediately to submit to the Finance Ministry our complementary payrolls so that they may be included for payment with government checks, and so that the payments can be verified and our workers can enjoy the right to wage increases decreed by the government

3. To proceed, in accord with the Labor Ministry and the National Workers Front, with the reclassification of positions in an attempt to readjust the current wages.

4. To proceed immediately, according to the resolution issued by the Labor Ministry, to review the group contract.

5. The Directorate of Information and Press of the Presidency and Radio Nicaragua General Directorate promise not to take overt or covert political reprisals against any of the workers who participated in the peaceful occupation of the radio station.

6. The total payment of the wage adjustment to the May complementary payroll and payment of 65 percent of the wage adjustment to the June payroll will be made no later than Thursday, 21 June.

Issued in Managua on 13 June 1990.

[Signed] Dr. Danilo Lacayo, director of Information and Press of the Presidency;
Frank Arana Icaza, Radio Nicaragua general director;
Roger Guardado, Radio Nicaragua administrative and financial director;
Bernardo Hernandez, secretary of organization of the Camilo Ortega Saavedra Union;
(Jose Dimas Bau), labor affairs secretary;
Jose Luis Zapata, propaganda secretary;
Nubia Cacerez, union representative for the administrative sector;
Lester Amaya Montenegro, union representative for the technical sector;
Alejandro Gomez, union representative for the administrative sector;
Julio Mendoza, union representative for the administrative sector;
Adalberto Mercado, CST representative;
Fatima Arrocha, union representative for the art sector.

Airport Flights Suspended; Workers Protest

PA1306141390 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1227 GMT 13 Jun 90

[Text] National and international flights were suspended yesterday as of 1900 when the workers of the Augusto Cesar Sandino Airport took over the control tower, demanding the reinstatement of Civil Aeronautics Director Dr. Alejandro Arguello.

Yesterday morning labor leaders spoke with representatives of Construction and Transportation Minister Jaime Icabalceta, but no solutions were reached and this led to the workers' protest.

The strike will go on indefinitely, until the authorities decide to reinstate Arguello, who is respected by the workers.

The workers of the Civil Aeronautics offices of the Central American countries have [words indistinct], recognizing the good work done by Arguello who, along with the officials, has been dismissed by Icabalceta.

Agreement Reached

PA1406014490 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 0016 GMT 14 Jun 90

[Text] [Words indistinct] negotiations between the Nicaraguan Civil Aeronautics trade union and Construction and Transportation Minister Jaime Icabalceta agreed to reopen the Augusto Cesar Sandino International Airport, which had been been closed since yesterday.

Minister Icabalceta said that the parties agreed to propose Engineer Alejandro Arguello as adviser for the new Civil Aeronautics personnel. With this promise, the airport employees have agreed to reopen the country's airspace and receive the planes that are scheduled to arrive within the next few hours.

Southern Front, Government Sign Agreement

PA1406014590 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 2254 GMT 13 Jun 90

[Demobilization agreement between the Government and the Southern Front read by Cardinal Miguel Obando y Bravo followed by responses to questions from local and foreign reporters by unidentified Southern Front

commanders and advisers at Las Mercedes Hotel in Managua—live or recorded; broadcast in progress]

[Text] [Obando] ....[words indistinct] as of 1300 on 13 June 1990 and to cease all military operations and all other activities, that may directly or indirectly lead to the resumption of hostilities between the conflicting parties.

2. In order to guarantee strict compliance with the [words indistinct] His Eminence Cardinal Miguel Obando y Bravo and ONUCA [UN Observer Group in Central America] will verify the fulfillment of same.

3. On the third day after the signing of this agreement, Southern Front troops will proceed to the point of concentration hereby established. The Nicaraguan Government's military [word indistinct] and security forces will not hinder the movement of Southern Front troops from their current location to the established meeting point.

4. The CIAV [International Support and Verification Commission] will establish its own centers of support and assistance at the agreed upon locations to provide humanitarian assistance to the demobilized Southern Front troops and their relatives.

5. His Eminence Cardinal Miguel Obando y Bravo and ONUCA will adopt the necessary measures to verify compliance with the cease-fire.

6. Once the Southern Front forces are gathered at the established point of concentration, they will be demobilized and disarmed. This process should be completed no later than 25 July 1990.

7. ONUCA will receive the weapons according to the mandate issued by the UN Security Council and CIAV. ONUCA will then proceed to provide the corresponding humanitarian aid.

8. The Nicaraguan Government and the Southern Front will agree on establishing development areas to benefit the demobilized Southern Front forces. These areas will guarantee the security and the moral and physical safety of the demobilized troops and their relatives. The police corps sent by the Nicaraguan Government Ministry to the development areas will consist of demobilized members of the Southern Front.

9. The Nicaraguan Government will take the war-wounded and disabled of the Southern Front to Managua to provide them with special care.

10. Similarly, Inssbi [Nicaraguan Social Security and Welfare Institute] will grant monthly pensions to the widows and orphans of Southern Front combatants that are due. The Southern Front will present the corresponding list of widows and orphans to initiate this process.

11. Each demobilized man will receive a minimum of economic aid. Mechanisms for the delivery of that aid will be established in due time.

12. The Nicaraguan Government commits itself to appoint representatives of the demobilized men—who will be chosen by the Southern Front itself—and place them in the ministries that deal with the former Southern Front combatants and their relatives.

13. Former Southern Front combatants who return to their places of origin will be supported by the state in order for them to rejoin the country's political life.

14. Once the development areas are duly established and legally organized, the residents of these areas will be given titles of rural and urban land ownership for their parcels and access to the the woods, water, and other natural resources that exist in the area according to current Nicaraguan laws and regulations.

The Nicaraguan Government will continue to collect weapons from civilians located in the areas of concentration and throughout the rest of the country. In addition, the government will proceed with the demilitarization of zones where the development areas are established.

16. [number as heard] The Nicaraguan Government and the Southern Front will work along with His Eminence Cardinal Miguel Obando y Bravo, ONUCA, and CIAV, to facilitate the tasks assigned to these figures and organizations.

To abide by the current agreement, an attached disarmament timetable has been established. Implementation of this timetable will be conducted according to the progress made in fulfilling the commitments made by the signatory parties.

His Eminence Cardinal Miguel Obando y Bravo has agreed to solemnly announce this definitive and effective cease-fire agreement and to help in the implementation of all its phases and in any other humanitarian and social tasks to whatever extent is possible.

Finally, His Eminence Cardinal Miguel Obando y Bravo expresses his pleasure over the patriotic decisions that have been made and joins the signatories of the agreement to thank God for his help and for illuminating the conflicting parties.

El Almendro, 12 June 1990

[Reporter] [Words indistinct] agreement among the parties in conflict?

[Southern Front] The Southern Front is planning to lead its own activities as it has always done. The Southern Front is thinking about a different type of development center, but always within the framework of the agreement.

[Reporter] Will you have a rural police force like the Northern Front will have?

[Southern Front] In the agreement it is also stated that it will consist of former Southern Front fighters who wish to join the police and who are willing to do so.

[Reporter] How many fighters are there?

[Southern Front] 2,500 fighters.

[Reporter] Have they already returned to Nicaragua?

[Southern Front] They never left Nicaragua like others did. The Southern Front has always been inside Nicaragua. It may seem to you that the demobilization has come about very quickly, but the truth is that those troops are already in what we have described as preconcentration areas.

[Reporter] [Question indistinct]?

[Southern Front] Yes. In Southern and Central Zelaya, Rio San Juan Department, and Chontales.

[Reporter] When was this group created?

[Southern Front] The Southern Front is the former Democratic Revolutionary Alliance. Since 1982, the Southern Front has had a presence in the Nicaraguan mountains from where it fought against the most powerful army ever in Central America. The Southern Front had no help except for the support given them by the civilian population. This is why we have a serious commitment to the civilian population in that area. Many peasants in those areas lost their lives. There are many orphans and disabled. This is precisely why we have reached these agreements with the government, always ensuring that the rights of these people are protected. Most of the people in that area are peasants, and they have always been ignored by the government.

[Reporter] [Question indistinct]?

[Southern Front] I cannot tell you [words indistinct] fighters. I will not try to say that there are 5,000 orphans and 5,000 disabled, but there are quite a few and we cannot forget them.

[Reporter] [Words indistinct] future of the Southern Front?

[Southern Front] We, as the Southern Front, have always distinguished ourselves because we have always said that we are a front of political-military struggle. This will answer your question. We are looking forward to forming a political party [words indistinct] that will allow us to incorporate the people in this region of the country.

[Reporter] Do you have any type of relationship with Commander Eden Pastora?

[Southern Front] [Words indistinct] surrender, we have had nothing to do with him.

[Reporter] For the Radio Nicaragua listeners, who are the commanders present here today? Please give us names and aliases, please.

[Southern Front] Dante; Navegante, chief of general staff; Commander Oscar, member of the General Staff; Commander Richard, also a member of the General Staff; I am their political adviser. Then we have Commander Chacal, a regional commander, and Comrade Raul, who is also a political adviser.

[Reporter] Do you have the names of the persons who will represent you at the ministries responsible for the development centers where you are going to be living?

[Southern Front] Not yet. According to the agreements and to what the government has said, the general staff must present the names to the president.

[Reporter] Why did it take you so long to sign the agreement?

[Southern Front] We believe that Nicaragua must disarm. We believe that, at this moment, Nicaragua neither has the money for, nor does it need, such a big army. Disarmament is one of our main concerns. We have stated this. We would like to see all the paramilitary and military groups armed by the previous government disarmed. This is something that His Eminence the Cardinal also pointed out. Most of the Nicaraguan people feel the same way. Nicaragua does not have the money to maintain such a big and unproductive army. The country needs to be rebuilt. It needs our participation. We must all produce.

[Reporter] Where are you going to be established once you have demobilized?

[Southern Front] In southern Nicaragua, where the Southern Front has always been active and where it has the support of the peasants. Those peasants deserve our help now.

[Reporter] [Question indistinct]?

[Southern Front] He is not here because he is busy getting the troops together; he is in charge of all that. He does, however, support these agreements.

Chamorro To Announce EPS Changes 'Soon'

PA1406034990 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 1815 GMT 13 Jun 90

[Text] President Violeta Barrios Chamorro said yesterday that very soon she will disclose her plans to reduce the size of the Army and make changes within the General Staff of the Sandinist Peoples Army.

[Begin recording] [Reporter] Madame President, what can you tell us about Radio Nicaragua and about the significance of your trip to Costa Rica? What was the main reason for the trip?

[Chamorro] Sir, I expressed condolences to Mrs. Figueres, an old friend of mine and the widow of my good friend Jose Figueres, who died on 8 June and will be buried tomorrow. I repeat, we have been friends since 1957. I believe that this man deserves all the accolades that the entire world can offer him. He was a democrat and his foremost contribution was marvelous and I would like to imitate him—total democracy and total disarmament in that country.

[Reporter] [Words indistinct] to disclose the plan to reduce the Army. When will you disclose it?

[Chamorro] I will disclose it soon. We have an open society, and nothing will be concealed from you.

[Reporter] According to dispatch reports, you have talked of dismantling the entire government. Could you expand on this?

[Chamorro] I do not want to criticize the press, but some untruths are being said.

[Reporter] Madame, could you tell us about your trip to Guatemala?

[Chamorro] Of course. I will travel to Guatemala on the night of 15 June. I believe that many interesting issues will be discussed at the presidential meeting, including the disarmament of all of Central America.

[Reporter] How long will General Ortega be head of the Army?

[Chamorro] Until I decide otherwise. The current situation is provisional, and things will soon change.

[Reporter] Will you make announcements before your trip to Guatemala or after you return?

[Chamorro] I am going to invite all of the press because I like the press to hear what I say. If you come to the president's house, you will hear what she has to say. [end recording]

Panama

Endara on Public Force, Justice, Other Issues

PA1306184090 Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 8 Jun 90 p 2-A

[Report by Migdalia Fuentes de Pineda]

[Text] President Guillermo Endara Galimany has told LA PRENSA that he feels he is being criticized a lot, but that is the price of democracy, and he is willing to pay it 1,001 times. Endara, who will get married for the second time on 10 June to Ana Mae Diaz, 22, said anyone hoping to be the president of a democratic government after 21 years of dictatorship, and is expecting all the newsmen to flatter him, will be very mistaken. The president, who received the support of reporters during the presidential campaign, said that at the start of his mandate a reporter asked how long he wanted the "honeymoon" with the news media to last, and he replied that he never wanted any honeymoon with the media because he is married to democracy, not to reporters.

"I do not want all reporter to feel that they have an obligation—on the contrary, we are building a democracy. Of course, we are experiencing a completely new phase, following 21 years where freedom of expression was parceled out in doses and not allowed," Endara noted. He added that everybody wants to utilize freedom of expression, but it should not be used to flatter the president, because we had enough flatterers in the past 21 years. "If I have to suffer the consequences of that new freedom, I believe that is the price I must pay for being the president who restored democracy in Panama after 21 years of dictatorial rule."

Commenting on the existing media laws, the president said it is not easy to repeal them since the professionalism of newsmen must be protected. "Not just anybody can be a reporter, and we must protect that profession, just as we protect lawyers and the medical professions," he remarked. Then he added that the law cannot leave journalists and public relations professionals unprotected. The president said that security must be handled by Panamanians, not foreigners.

The makeup of the Public Force [FP] and its integration into the country is one of the issues of greatest concern for the government. In this respect, Endara said the FP's ultimate authority is in the hands of the president, and command posts should go to civilians, although the FP is basically a police force. He added that Ibrahim Azvat and Raul Arias de Para, Justice and Government Ministry civilian advisers, perform administrative duties within the FP and participate in guiding its different branches. He felt that as the economic situation improves, many FP members will go on to private activities, which will help reduce the number of the police staff in an orderly fashion.

Regarding the government's economic program, the president stated that the guidelines were given during the political campaign and when he assumed the presidency in several speeches.

He admitted that he is not overly enthusiastic about economic issues, but he stated that the plan cannot be carried out against the prevailing interests in Panama.

"Now that economic aid has been approved and the Inter-American Development Bank has outlined its plans, we are making economic consultations through the minister of planning, particularly for the banks' reactivation, so that the banks may again carry out their role as mediators between savings, loans, and the formation of capital," the president said.

President Endara, who held the interview with LA PRENSA at his office at the Palace of the Herons, did not hesitate to say that the vice presidents' roles as

ministers have been a valuable contribution to his government, and he emphasized that there are previous examples of this in Panama. He cited Dr. Arnulfo Arias as an example.

Endara said that Vice Presidents Ricardo Arias Calderon and Guillermo Ford are excellent politicians and great friends whom he fully trusts.

"My friendship with them helps strengthen a political coalition that is necessary for leading Panama in the reconstruction of its economy and its democracy," he stated.

Endara, a lawyer by profession, is considered to be an unassuming man who loves good food and who treats others cordially. He calmly answered questions during the interview, which lasted one hour and 15 minutes.

He said that he is satisfied with the procedures being used to implement justice, although he acknowledged that there has been a lot of criticism on the issue, because there are people who would like to see things done with greater speed.

"...and so would I...and so would the public prosecutor's office...but we must understand that the public prosecutor's office has been overwhelmed by a large number of lawsuits, and it has its physical and personnel limitations," he said.

We would like to create many public prosecutor's offices to handle all this, but we do not have the resources to do it, and we cannot even say if it could be properly organized.

We know that the current legal procedures do not always lead to quick trials. In fact, I believe that the slowness sometimes has to do with defending the accused people's rights.

Many times the ensuing procedures and the delays are not the public prosecutor's options, but rather terms and notifications to protect and defend the accused.

"We do not share the views of a distinguished Panamanian who said that one or two arbitrary actions must be carried out to proceed quickly. We cannot afford the luxury of carrying out arbitrary actions; we must give the accused the rights that they denied us when they were in power," the president stated.

When someone tells me that there are quick procedures in the United States, I point out what is happening in the Noriega case, he said.

"Noriega is a case that was apparently thoroughly investigated in the United States, and when he was taken there, he was given one year so that his lawyers could defend him, and we know that there are reports indicating that it might take longer," the president stated.

Referring to the dispute arising between Attorney General Rogelio Cruz and Doctor Rodrigo Miranda, the special prosecutor in charge of Hugo Spadafora's case, President Endara said that the media has gone too far.

"I think that the people have been confused by a series of legal arguments going back and forth that have been confusing. I am a lawyer, yet I am confused....It is said that the prosecutor general must be declared unable to handle the case, yet when the information is published, it says that the prosecutor general must be removed from the post, the president said, adding that "no one gives specific details, and the ensuing rift leads nowhere."

Endara added: I have the right to answer the newspapers' and television stations' criticisms, just as they criticize me, because they are turning this into a "legal mess."

Regarding the uses of the $420 million, the president said a specific plan on how to use each dollar has been drafted. Endara said the main efforts are aimed at creating jobs to start the country's economic recovery. We want to connect a "jumper" to the car's battery, which is dead, Endara said, meaning that he wants to give a new boost to the Panamanian economy, based on the creation of new jobs, so that the economy recovers with the support of all Panamanians.

The president denied that there is nepotism and added that although relatives of some officials have been appointed in the government, this is because we are a relatively small country. Professionals and politicians are a small group; therefore, this kind of situation will exist, the president added.

Endara said: "I clearly want to say that the case in which I have been mentioned refers to one of my uncles, [Jorge Endara Paniza] who has been appointed director of the Social Security Fund [CSS]. I made that appointment myself because I purposely wanted to convey the clear message that I have a very especial interest in the CSS. Had it been possible for the president to take over that post, in addition to being president, I would have done it."

Jorge Endara Paniza has his own merits, President Endara said, adding that Endara Paniza has been and is one of the best directors of enterprises in Panama. He has been trusted with revitalizing several bankrupt companies, and I think I am lucky that he accepted the post, the president added.

During the past months, President Endara has been accused of being too lenient. Many have even said that his presence as president is not even noticed.

In this regard and without even blushing, President Endara admits that his leadership style is low key, noting that the country would not have tolerated a strong leadership since this would have been like a new dictatorial regime.

"The soft-style leadership I intend to convey is democratic. I honestly believe that if I had adopted a strong leadership style, I would have been nothing more than a

continuation of Noriega, which the country would not have accepted and which I would not have tried to impose."

The president said the relationship between Panama and the United States is excellent. He said that after 20 December 1989, the United States has adopted the right position because it has not meddled in the internal affairs of Panama.

"I have never felt any pressure or received any suggestions on how to run the Panamanian Government," the president said, adding that he laughs when he is told that next to his offices, there are offices where colonels constantly tell him what to do.

Referring to constitutional reforms, the president said that they are limited to those considered absolutely necessary.

"I believe that this historical moment basically calls for changes in the laws affecting the FP. To begin a great constitutional debate is truly wasting time," he noted.

Asked about his opinion on a constituent assembly, President Endara stated that it could be held in the future, after we have fully experienced democracy and after the stage of economic and democratic reconstruction is over with.

"To begin a constituent assembly now, amid our economic reorganization, is looking for trouble—the kind of trouble we would never get out of. We would be postponing for many years our economic, social, and political development."

The president—who also attaches great importance to the Panamanian people's sovereignty—remarked: I think that we could start a constituent assembly after we have gone through a series of experiences.

Endara looked very excited about his upcoming wedding; he almost looked like an adolescent when he talked about it.

He said that he will spend his honeymoon at the presidential palace, although he will travel to Guatemala for a few days to participate in the Central American presidential summit.

He said that he would have preferred to have taken his fiancee to visit Boquete and Bocas del Toro Province, but it drives him crazy to think that he has to take all of his bodyguards, too.

I am going to stay here for my honeymoon, although the Central American summit will save the situation, Endara said candidly, because Ana Mae will go with him to Guatemala.

Endara said that during the inauguration of Costa Rican President Calderon Fournier, Venezuelan President Carlos Andres Perez suggested Antigua, Guatemala as the ideal place for a honeymoon.

Regarding the Central American summit, the president said that Panama will attend merely as an observer because economics will be the main topic of the meeting.

According to the president, as far as economic matters are concerned, the Central American countries have not advanced very much in the areas of integration and the common market.

"I do not feel that I would be doing justice to the Central American countries and that it would not be right for Panamanians to go to that meeting to talk about the Central American Common Market, when here in Panama we have not talked about that for many years. I do not believe that I can attend the meeting as a participant with full rights," Endara remarked.

In conclusion, the president noted that he believes that the recent registration of his Arnulfist Party means that the ideals of Dr. Arnulfo Arias Madrid are still in force.

"We, Arnulfo's followers, are used to having the party stolen from us and to operating without legal status," Endara said, adding that he has always felt his party's support.

"Many people thought that with Dr. Arias' death the party would disappear, but Dr. Arias' strength goes beyond his life. His strength was in his ideas. He used to say that his ideas would continue after his death, and this has been proven. Dr. Arias is a political leader who is stronger now, even more so than when he was alive."

When we registered in 1983, we registered 54,000 people. Now, in two days, we have registered more than 100,000 people. This is how one views the strength of Dr. Arias' ideas and charisma. Our strength is greater now than in 1983. I believe that we have proven now that we are stronger than at our last registration.

The Presidency of the Republic is not something one looks for—it is heaven sent, not sought for. Everyone truly knows that it is not a position I sought; it is a position that, because of a series of circumstances, which seemed fortuitous, befell me.

Endara, who maintains that he is not a product of a foreign action, but of the people's mandate, said that he is keeping all the promises he made to the Panamanian people and added that he reaffirms his promises everyday.

Editorial Questions Constitutional Amendments

PA1306173390 Panama City EL SIGLO in Spanish 7 Jun pp 1, 5

[Editorial: "Amendments or Constituent Assembly"]

[Text] Panama has emerged from a war. The overthrow of Manuel Antonio Noriega cost a lot of Panamanian blood. The country is still revolving around the social-political whirlwind unleashed by the earthly forces of

history, which, for better or worse, are keeping the Panamanians in a state of uncertainty.

When great nations like Germany, France, and England were on the threshold of history, they kept their sights on the future of their country, even if momentarily buffeted by a crisis.

During those moments, national spirit arose invincibly, personified in leaders and statesmen who left a mark on the history of their countries. DeGaulle, Churchill, and Lincoln rose to the occasion and never once hesitated to struggle for the welfare of their countrymen.

Panama is awaiting the guidance of a leader. The people want substantial changes in the constitution that will, once and for all, end the defects of the oligarchic past and the militarist nightmare, with its aftermath of crimes and murders.

There is much talk about amendments to the Constitution. These amendments, which do not contain substantial changes, were presented by the Executive Branch to the Legislative Assembly.

President Guillermo Endara did not consult anyone. He drafted the amendments secretly. Meanwhile, legislator Jose Antonio Sossa, president of the Government and Constitutional Affairs Commission of the Assembly, is conducting a large consultative campaign, which is praiseworthy.

Some constitutionalist lawyers have already complained that there are flaws in the "amendments" because 10 legislators did not attend the assembly sessions.

The problem lies in incorrect legal procedures. Legal structures and the posts of the Electoral Board could be in the hands of intolerable political sectarians in these crucial times.

The brutal militarism was crushed. However, it has left untouched the shell that allowed it to disguise itself before the world. Today, we might be treading the path that led our country to the militarist nightmare.

Intellectuals should participate in the drafting of constitutional amendments or the convoking of a constituent assembly. A constituent assembly is the best way for us to bolster the new democracy, basing it on a constitution that will give, if not a definite, then at least a form for the future, to the consolidation of an integrated and choherent state.

The ghost of the past is haunting us. Some sectors want to take us back to the first link of the long militarist chain that strangled Panama on a fateful night in 1968.

President Guillermo Endara can and should order a great national debate on constitutional amendments to definitely bury the spectre of military coups.

Hunger, misery, and unemployment are the main scourges afflicting Panamanians. A firm attiutde on the part of the president could take us out of the abyss and satisfy the people's cry for a reign of justice, true democracy, and freedom, expressed in a country torn by despair.

Perhaps the worst of our woes is the bitter realization that the government is ruling behind the people's back. Once again the government has become the political spoils for a privileged minority to the detriment of the majority, which is overwhelmed by problems that cannot be solved by a government that was elected by the people.

People have the government that they deserve...however, the masses feel that the time for civic battles is near, and undoubtedly the people will rise to the occasion of future events....

Attorney General Revokes Preventive Detention

PA1406035090 Panama City Circuito
RPC Television in Spanish 2329 GMT 13 Jun 90

[Text] Prosecutor General Rogelio Cruz today revoked the 31 January resolution ordering the preventive detention of former members of the General State Council, who have been indicted for crimes against the country's internal security. The prosecutor's decision includes Rafael Arosemena, Rene Bultron, Lilia Castro, Rodolfo Chiari de Leon, Bernardo Dominguez, Orville Goodin, Dario Gonzalez de la Barrera, Ovigildo Herrera, Dagoberto Lara, Cesar Montenegro, Julio Shaik, Jorge Ritter, Jorge Tason, and Manuel Antonio Noriega.

In addition, the Prosecutor General ordered the provisional release of Benjamin Colamarco in connection with charges involving offenses against public security and the country's internal security. Colamarco, however, will remain detained for other charges imputed to him.

Argentina

Minister Romero Says All Normal in Armed Forces

PY1306152090 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1504 GMT 13 Jun 90

[Text] Buenos Aires, 13 Jun (TELAM)—Defense Minister Humberto Romero today stressed that the situation within the Armed Forces is absolutely normal and that the matter of military salaries and the situation created in the 8th Infantry Brigade based in Mendoza "are exhausted topics that have come to an end."

Romero made this remark when he was asked about these topics at the Defense Ministry during a ceremony commemorating the anniversary of the creation of his ministry.

Bolivia

Further on Criticism of U.S. Ambassador

MBL Requests 'Persona Non Grata'

PY1306140890 La Paz La Red Panamericana in Spanish 1100 GMT 13 Jun 90

[Text] The Free Bolivia Movement [MBL] has asked the Chamber of Deputies to declare U.S. Ambassador to Bolivia Robert Gelbard persona non grata.

Alfonso Ferrufino has announced a proposal that the MBL has sent to the appropriate congressional commission for due evaluation, reporting, and later consideration by the full chamber.

The proposal says: The Chamber of Deputies informs the executive branch that to defend and rescue our national sovereignty and dignity, it considers it necessary to declare the U.S. ambassador to Bolivia persona non grata. This declaration is prompted by the ambassador's repeated interference in our domestic affairs and for his lack of respect for our sovereignty. This is a political note.

National Leaders Reject Remarks

PY1406033490 La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish 9 Jun 90 p 1

[Text] Congressmen from the five most important Bolivian political parties yesterday demanded that U.S. Ambassador Robert Gelbard submit "immediate proof of his denouncement." Gelbard has recently charged coca-leaf growers and their leaders with having received drug money.

Coca-growing union leaders and the Bolivian Labor Federation [COB] angrily demanded the government to expel Gelbard, whom they declared "persona non grata."

"Ambassador Gelbard goes too far beyond his authority and does not respect the country," Senator Carlos Farah of the ruling Nationalist Democratic Action [ADN] party said. Deputy Ernesto Machicao of the opposition Nationalist Revolutionary Movement [MNR] party said that if Gelbard has information about his charge, he will have to submit the proof. "If not, he is concealing the crime," he stated.

Meanwhile, the government downplayed Gelbard's remarks, and Interior Minister Guillermo Capobianco said that they are part of a "secondary controversy." He noted, however, that the authorities "know what they have to do."

Senator Jorge Escobari, of the Conscience of the Fatherland, said that the international agreements do not allow diplomats to express opinions on the internal matters of countries where they are accredited. He urged the government to ask Gelbard to comply with his obligations.

"The ambassador's charge is very delicate, and he will surely submit proof at the appropriate time," Senate President Gonzalo Valda, who is an MNR member, said.

"This person should leave Bolivia, and before leaving he should prove the charges he made against coca growers," COB Secretary Ruffo Rivera said on urging the government to provide a quick answer.

United Left member German Gutierrez supported the COB secretary's request. He said that the U.S. Ambassador has been constantly "meddling" in Bolivian internal affairs, "a situation which is regretfully admitted by the Bolivian Government itself."

Finance Minister Departs for United States

PY1306132890 La Paz La Red Panamericana in Spanish 1100 GMT 13 Jun 90

[Text] Finance Minister David Blanco will fly to the United States to ask for a speedier release of the funds that are committed to our country by international organizations.

The minister departed for the United States after his meeting with Santa Cruz businessmen. Blanco will also meet with U.S. authorities to discuss the disbursement of funds that development agencies have allotted to Bolivia.

Minister Blanco will also meet with executives of the World Bank, the Inter-American Development Bank, and others agencies involved in technical and financial cooperation with Bolivia.

Paz To Attend Presidential Inaugurations

PY1406035690 La Paz Television Boliviana Network in Spanish 0030 GMT 14 Jun 90

[Excerpt] The National Congress approved tonight the request made by President Jaime Paz Zamora to attend the presidential inaugurations in Peru and Colombia. National Congress President Luis Ossio Sanjinez emphasized the international activities of the president. He explained the trips the president will make.

[Begin Ossio recording] Congress approved the trips of the president. He will be in Salta on 16 June to meet with Argentine President Menem and all the governors of the Argentine northern provinces to commemorate the anniversary of the death of General Guemes. [passage omitted] Congress also approved the president's trip to Peru to attend the presidential inauguration of President- elect Alberto Fujimori, and to Colombia to attend the inauguration of President-elect Gaviria on 7 August. [passage omitted] [end recording]

OAS Secretary on Need To Solve Debt Problem

PY1306144890 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2041 GMT 12 Jun 90

[Text] La Paz, 12 Jun (EFE)—OAS Secretary General Joao Baena Soares today stated in La Paz that the foreign debt is still the main obstacle keeping developing countries from economic expansion and progress. Baena Soares made these remarks during the commemoration of the OAS centennial anniversary celebrated at the Bolivian Senate.

"As long as the paradoxical situation we have been experiencing since 1982 is not corrected—that is, as long as a substantial part of the meager savings of developing nations is channeled into foreign debt payments—there will be no progress," Baena Soares stated.

In his speech, Baena Soares stressed the OAS work to achieve the democratization of OAS member countries, and asked that the same effort be made to foster the convergence of economic processes in the region. The OAS Secretary General made the same remarks at a meeting with Bolivian President Jaime Paz Zamora at the Government Palace.

Paz Zamora stated: "The government is placing new hope in the new epoch the OAS can begin under the current favorable conditions, such as the return of democracy to its member states."

In his speech to the Bolivian Senate, the OAS Secretary General stated that, although member countries have managed to share the same democratic institutionalization process, no global solutions have been found to many problems such as the foreign debt, drug trafficking, and the economic crisis.

"The effective potential for an autonomous use of resources must be restored in order to face successfully the great challenges posed by the crisis," Baena Soares stated.

Regarding drug trafficking, he said that this problem affects all countries of the international community, but that no general solution has yet been found.

After the speech by Luis Ossio Sanjines, Congress president and vice president of Bolivia, stressing the OAS work for integration and the solution of some regional problems, the senate president presented Baena Soares with an insignia commemorating the OAS centennial anniversary.

Brazil

Police Chief Wants Antidrug Agreement Reviewed

PY1306155490 Brasilia Radio Nacional da Amazonia Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 13 Jun 90

[Excerpt] Federal Police Secretary Romeu Tuma will request Itamaraty to speed up a review of an agreement on the fight against drugs signed between Brazil and the United States.

The agreement provides for the exchange of information and bilateral action in fighting drug trafficking whenever reciprocal interest is involved. Delegate Romeu Tuma explained how U.S. agents have cooperated with Brazil in fighting drug trafficking.

[Begin Tuma recording] The United States has the DEA, a specialized organ that has five agents stationed in Brazil. Five agents are not enough to cover the field. Like Canada and other interested countries, the U.S. agents have followed the procedures of the Brazilian Federal Police, and they have provided us with information, just as we have provided them with information. Drug trafficking does not recognize border lines. [end recording] [passage omitted]

IBGE May Index Shows Inflation Decline Trend

PY1306140090 Brasilia Radio Nacional da Amazonia Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 13 Jun 90

[Text] The IBGE [Brazilian Geography and Statistics Institute] has announced the INPC [National Consumer Price Index] for May. It is 7.31 percent. According to IBGE president Eduardo Guimaraes, this index is lower than the April index of 14.67 percent, and it shows a trend of declining inflation.

[Begin Guimaraes recording] It reveals that inflation is dropping. The May index shows that there is not a trend toward increasing inflation at this time and that inflation is under control. [end recording]

Eduardo Guimaraes announced that tomorrow the Economy Ministry will publish a resolution regulating the IRVF [Fiscal Values Readjustment Index]. The IRVF, which will have a methodology similar to that of the INPC, will readjust the BTN [National Treasury Bond] and correct the Savings Book.

Chile

Reportage Examines Reactions to Pisagua Affair

Aylwin Calls for 'Justice', 'Truth'

PY1306142890 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 13 Jun 90

[Text] Referring to the discovery of human bodies in the northern region, President Patricio Aylwin said last night that the Chilean moral conscience demands that the events be clarified, that the truth be discovered, and that justice be implemented whenever possible. The president made these comments during a lecture to hundreds of students of the East Campus of the Catholic University.

On the occasion, President Aylwin said that no one can be indifferent to the drama being experienced in the country. We must all act with profound political responsibility.

[Begin Aylwin recording] It is not enough to say that there have been conflicts, that there has been hatred and violence, that the country had been experiencing something similar to a war, and that we must remember what each party said at the time.

A political condemnation of a previous situation should not be used to excuse the excesses that have been committed. I have already said, and I now repeat, that the Chilean moral conscience demands that events be clarified, that the truth be discovered, and that justice be implemented whenever possible. [applause] [end recording]

The president asserted that it is not a matter of putting institutions on trial, because the blame for a crime is always personal. Aylwin then said that the country is not seeking vengeance, nurturing hatred, or calling for violence. He said that Chile wants peace, but that this peace must be based on truth and justice.

He added that, as the president of Chile, he has the moral and historical obligation to help heal the nation's wounds. He concluded by saying: The ultimate national good demands that we be courageous enough to share our pain, that we be valiant enough to face the truth together, and that—most of all—we be generous enough to tread together the path that leads to reconciliation.

Army's Will To Cooperate Emphasized

PY1406025490 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 13 Jun 90

[Text] The Defense Ministry emphasized the Army's will to cooperate with the government to clarify cases such as the discovery of bones in the northern part of the country.

The Defense Ministry, in a note signed by Defense Minister Patricio Rojas, referred to the Army communique about events that occurred in the past. Regarding an evaluation of those events, the Defense Ministry said that the concepts put forward by the Army represent a historic judgment that should be left to the people to evaluate. In this regard the position of the government is well known, and its latest position was contained in the presidential message of 21 May 1990.

The note also emphasized the Army's will to face the future under a democratic regime. The note adds that the declaration confirms the comments made by the Army chief that the Army will provide the cooperation requested by the government in order to clarify the discovery of bones in the north and other similar cases as soon as possible.

Communist Leader Gives Views

PY1306222390 Santiago Radio Chilena Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 13 Jun 90

[Text] Volodia Teitelboim, the secretary general of the Communist Party of Chile [PCCh], has said that we must differentiate between the armed institutions and their members, adding that the institutions should put their houses in order.

Teitelboim was accompanied by PCCh members Manuel Canteros and Gladys Marin. He spoke following his recent visit to Pisagua where he saw the investigations into the clandestine graves.

Teitelboim said that those who, on behalf of an alleged war, justified the murder of people were responsible for this Dantesque spectacle. He stressed that if we now accept the concept of an alleged internal war we would be acceding to a possible recurrence; thus, General Pinochet must resign.

[Begin Teitelboim recording] No fair military doctrine should lead the Armed Forces to commit crimes against the nation, to dig clandestine graves, to make illegal disclosures, to torture, to send people to exile, or to massively kill. [end recording]

This fair way of thinking motivates the public institutions to safeguard the nationality and the lives of the people. The seven military men [not further identified] said that those were times of madness, but this was a unilateral and well-managed madness.

[Begin Teitelboim recording] There was a cruel murderer who was encouraged by a mortal doctrine. He was a murderer in this alleged internal war that was created by insane minds. [end recording]

The court will punish those responsible for the crimes in Pisagua and in other sectors of the country, Teitelboim concluded.

Army Communique Demands Respect for Institution

PY1306194490 Santiago Radio Chilena Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 13 Jun 90

[Italicized passages are recorded]

[Text] As a result of the criticism originating from the discovery of human bodies in the northern and other regions of the country, a communique has demanded respect for the Army. The demand was made in a nine-page communique signed by General Augusto Pinochet and all the other generals, together with 60 officers and brigadiers of the Santiago garrison. The communique, which was read by War Academy Director Ricardo Uzurrieta, was released at 1200 today. Its most important part states:

[Uzurrieta] *We demand respect for our institution and for all who have experienced the war-hardships and who are now doing their utmost for the establishment of peace and progress in the country. We are certain that Chileans in general will serenely confront the truth of this war which is reflected in deeds such as the one we are being confronted with now, as well as other painful consequences of this truth.*

The Army communique basically describes 1973 and the following years as a civil war. The document states that the current peace reigning in Chile is a result of the Armed Forces' efforts and that this peace has made the people forget, quote, the concrete way in which the country lived the war years and the causes that originated it, unquote.

It also states that the Army cooperated with President Allende's administration until it became, quote, illegitimate, unquote.

The note then justifies the attitude and behavior of the Armed Forces and the military in general after the 1973 coup.

[Uzurrieta] *Whenever we want to discredit the winners, we charge them with cruelty, criminal excesses, and above all, with implementing disproportionate punishment against the defeated forces.*

In our case, we are sure that freedom would not have been victorious if severe and dissuasive actions had not been employed by the Armed Forces and carabineros.

The communique adds that the military, like other Chileans, feel sorrow for some past events. We also have our own martyrs, widows, orphans, and war cripples. We are not indifferent to sorrow, and we have had to suffer it for years, as a result of the domestic war that we had to face.

The note then criticizes those sectors that do not understand the events as the armed institutions do.

[Uzurrieta] *Those who sponsor these episodes are opening further the wounds of those who have suffered, are attempting to divide the country, and are creating obstacles for a national reconciliation, with which the Chilean Army wants to loyally cooperate. It worries us, however, that an irresponsible treatment of these high-level objectives lead to exaggerated hatred and to reactions that will signify a retrogression.*

In its last part, the Army communique states that this institution has never ceased to serve the country and takes pride in the merit of its historical mission. It concludes by ratifying its desire to cooperate with the supreme government in its effort to guarantee national unity and consolidate full democracy in the country.

UDI Expresses Support for Army Communique

PY1406034490 Santiago Radio Cooperativa Network in Spanish 2300 GMT 13 Jun 90

[Text] The Independent Democratic Union [UDI] has issued a communique expressing its total support for the declaration recently issued by the Army. UDI Secretary General Joaquin Lavin read the communique which says that the Army's statements place the 1973 events in their appropriate dimension. We want the complete truth—the UDI document states—and the truth is that Chile was dragged into a civil war situation by the Popular Unity government. The UDI sustains that it is unacceptable that 17 years after the events took place, those people who are responsible for dragging the country to those painful events are now trying to judge that situation, despite the fact that they ended by being burned in the fire they themselves ignited.

[Begin Lavin recording] The total truth is that the Armed Forces intervened on 11 September 1973 in answer to a call made by the majority of the people, including labor, social, political leaders, and even the Christian Democratic Party. The total truth is that the action of the Armed Forces has freed Chile, at a painful expense, but at a very low expense in terms of human lives if compared with the cost paid by other countries, like Spain some decades ago, or in current times, El Salvador, Peru, Colombia, and other countries. These countries have faced conflicts as a consequence of communism, guerrillas, division among the Armed Forces, or inability to face subversive action. [end recording]

The UDI is proud of the Chilean Army and its men, and like the Army, the UDI regrets all the inhuman and painful episodes that took place in the country. But the facts must be judged within their corresponding context by taking into consideration the circumstances in which they took place. The UDI document concludes by saying it must be understood that after such events took place, and thanks to the Armed Forces government, Chile has evolved positively and peacefully toward full democracy.

Official Denies Toro, Pinochet Resignation

PY1306213990 Santiago Radio Chilena Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 13 Jun 90

[Report by Mireya Seguel]

[Excerpts] Government Under Secretary General Edgardo Riveros has denied that Investigative Police

The question is: Where and when will a second nuclear installation be built?Director General Horacio Toro, retired, has resigned following an interview by Television Chilena in which it was stated that Army Chief of Staff General Augusto Pinochet should tender his resignation. [passage omitted]

Andres Aylwin, the chairman of the Parliament Legislation and Justice Committee, has said that certain sectors have reasons to believe that Gen. Pinochet's position as Army chief of staff makes it more difficult to achieve national reconciliation.

Since noon, journalists have been waiting for news at the Investigative Police Headquarters following rumors that Gen. Toro had tendered his resignation. Public relations sources have reported, however, that so far they have not heard the rumors. [passage omitted]

Silva Cimma on Letelier Case, Other Issues

PY1306153290 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 13 Jun 90

[Report by Antonio Cofre]

[Text] In a news conference for foreign journalists, Foreign Minister Enrique Silva Cimma has asserted that there has been no U.S. pressure in the Letelier case. He pointed out that there has only been a justified request from a government, in whose capital there was a terrorist attack that cost two lives. He also said that the administrative investigation conducted by the Foreign Ministry to check on irregularities in the issuing of passports has proven that hundreds of counterfeit passports have indeed been issued.

[Begin Silva Cimma recording] This investigation ends under the circumstances in which [words indistinct], in other words, in the investigation of whether counterfeit official and diplomatic passports have been issued from 1975 to 1979. I can only say that, unfortunately, hundreds of counterfeit passports have indeed been issued. [end recording]

Regarding Chilean relations with Argentina, Silva Cimma said that these relations are better than ever, and he pointed out that the binational committee that is working on integration will meet in Santiago in July.

Regarding the resumption of diplomatic relations with Cuba, Silva Cimma said that this will depend fundamentally on the national interests and that, currently, conditions for normalizing relations with this country do not exist.

Pinochet Officially Reactivates I Army Corp

PY1306162090 Santiago EL MERCURIO in Spanish 7 Jun 90 p C2

[Report by Osvaldo Diaz Tapia]

[Text] Arica—Captain General Augusto Pinochet Ugarte, Army commander in chief, has officially reactivated the I Army Corp, a unit created by Decree 21 on 28 February 1945.

The ceremony took place at Fuerte Azapa at 1700 yesterday. Generals, regiment commanders, permanent personnel, and soldiers of units subordinate to the 6th Army Division attended the ceremony.

The I Army Corp will resume operations as an Institutional Operative Unit (administration) as established by the Army Organic Restructuring Plan and in accordance with Executive Decree 69 of 8 March 1990, which established the corp's jurisdiction in the first region, and its command and general headquarters in Iquique.

Chief of General Staff General Hugo Salas Wensel spoke during the ceremony. He read the command order naming Brigadier General Patricio Varela Saldias as new 6th Division commander. Then Army Commander in Chief Augusto Pinochet Ugarte read and signed the document officially reactivating the I Army Corp and designating General Luis Patricio Serre Ochsenius as I Corp commander in chief.

General Pinochet decorated the I Army Corp independent units' commanders with the "Mission Accomplished" medal as a recognition to the soldiers, the sailors, the pilots, and the carabineros who supported the ideals of the military government with total dedication and loyalty.

Pinochet pinned the medals on Colonel Alejandro Valdes Visintainer, commander of the "Pisagua" 6th Logistic Battalion; Colonel Luis Jofre Gonzalez, commander of the "Dolores" 6th Artillery Regiment; Colonel Roberto Arancibia Clavel, commander or the "Vencedores" 9th Armored Cavalry Regiment; Colonel Manuel Fernandez Dominguez, commander of the "Azapa" 6th Engineering Regiment; Colonel Juan Fernandez Berardi, commander of the "Carampangue" 5th Infantry Regiment; Lieutenant Colonel Arturo Vivas Rosales, commander of the "Huamachuco" 24th Infantry Regiment; Lieutenant Colonel Javier Urbina Paredes, commander of the "Rancagua" 4th Infantry Regiment; Lieutenant Colonel Daniel Carrasco Leiva, commander of the "Tarapaca" 6th Telecommunications Regiment; Lieutenant Colonel Armin Lopez Pelaez, commander of the "Granaderos" 1st Armored Cavalry Regiment; and Major Jorge Fuenzalida Rojas, commander of the "Iquique" 6th Commandoes Regiment.

Manuel Rodriguez Front To Continue Attacks

PY1406032290 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 13 Jun 90

[Text] The terrorist Manuel Rodriguez Front reiterated that it will continue to attack officials of the previous administration. The information was released by EFE, which said that subversive leaders (Vasily Carrillo), and (Karim Eitel) signed the note in this regard.

The declaration says that the terrorist Manuel Rodriguez Front will continue to fulfill its commitment, which they call popular justice, by murdering officials of the government of General Pinochet. In the past, the front has claimed responsibility for the attacks against Generals Leigh and Ruiz of the Chilean Air Force, and for the murder of Carabineros Colonel Luis Fontaine.

ANALISIS Publisher Receives Death Threats

PY1306134290 Santiago LA TERCERA DE LA HORA in Spanish 5 Jun 90 p 23

[Text] On 4 June Juan Pablo Cardenas, publisher of ANALISIS magazine, received a series of death threats over the telephone.

This information was released by the board of directors of the Journalists' Association, which has asked the Interior Ministry to take measures "to ensure that irreparable actions, such as those threatened, cannot be carried out."

In the note that it released, the association also indicates that this threat against newspapermen and the gagging of the freedom of expression are part of "the systematic obstruction of the transition to democracy."

Flights Between Santiago, Moscow To Begin

PY1306132290 Santiago LA TERCERA DE LA HORA in Spanish 3 Jun 90 p 14

[Text] According to a Chilean employee of the Soviet airline Aeroflot, flights between Moscow and Santiago will be resumed on 23 June after a 16-year interruption caused by political differences between the two governments.

Juan David, Aeroflot's representative in Chile, explained that the flights will depart Moscow and make stopovers in Stockholm, Shannon (Ireland), Havana, and Lima, before terminating in Santiago.

David indicated there will be two types of flights; one will be commercial, and the other one will be a special flight to take the Soviet crews back to their country.

Unemployment Rate Increases to 5.6 Percent

PY1306152090 Santiago EL MERCURIO in Spanish 6 Jun 90 p B16

[Summary] The National Statistics Institute yesterday reported in a news conference that the unemployment rate increased by 0.3 percent in the February-April period and now stands at 5.6 percent.

In the same period last year, the unemployment rate was 6.4 percent.

Colombia

Army Adopts Measures Against Medellin Violence

PA1306122590 Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 2 in Spanish 0000 GMT 13 Jun 90

[Text] Concerned about the new and serious wave of violence in Antioquia Department, the Colombian Armed Forces and the Antioquia Police have decided to adopt new security measures in the city of Medellin.

During an officers' promotion ceremony held at the Logistics School, Army Commander General Jesus Armando Arias Cabrales announced that the headquarters of the Army's First Division has been temporarily established in Medellin. This Army Division has three brigades, and each of these brigades has an average of nine battalions. In addition, the Rifles Battalion has been assigned to support Medellin Police tactical operations.

Gen. Arias Cabrales warned of the possibility that the criminal campaign against the Antioquia Department Police may have extended to the Army, since four soldiers were killed in similar circumstances in Antioquia Department during the last few days.

[Begin Arias recording] These soldiers were killed by paid assassins while off duty, and in a very particular way. This clearly shows the criminal dimension of the people who are currently against Colombian society. [end recording]

For the time being, Gen. Arias Cabrales ruled out the possibility of organizing the Medellin Police members into battalions as a measure to protect their lives, although he reiterated that the Army can always use that means to protect the National Police.

Extraditables To Continue Armed Struggle

PA1306233190 Paris AFP in Spanish 0420 GMT 13 Jun 90

[Text] Bogota, 12 Jun (AFP)—The clandestine group known as the Extraditables, the armed wing of the drug trafficking cartels, announced on Tuesday evening that it will continue its struggle against the Colombian authorities.

The organization, apparently headquartered in Medellin, the cradle of the Medellin Cartel, consists of drug traffickers who want to avoid being handed over to foreign justice, particularly U.S. justice. It has sent to the media an "open letter to the Colombian people and the director of the police."

According to Radio Caracol Network, in its letter the group insists on blaming the police, and in particular the Directorate of Judicial Police and Investigations (Dijin), for the "disappearance, torture, and death of tens of our comrades" since November despite the truce ordered by the extraditables.

Likewise, they have asked the police director to make public the exact number of policemen who have died or have been wounded "in attacks and clashes," as well as the number of desertions and resignations from that institution.

"We are not attempting to issue a bulletin of victories because our victory will be peace. However, we will not allow violations of human rights or such rights to be trampled upon. We respond with weapons to looting, torture, and the killing of our comrades and innocent people who live in downtrodden neighborhoods (in Medellin)," the communique adds.

The letter concludes stating that "for us it is very painful and sad to have to wage a war to attain peace."

The extraditables' letter was released on the same day when the government and the Public Force decided to reinforce security in the city of Medellin, especially in the northeastern part of Medellin, where civilians and policemen have been killed over the past few weeks. Approximately 128 people have been killed by paid assassins in Medellin thus far this year.

Tonight, one policemen was killed and three others were wounded after being shot by unidentified men who fired bursts of machine-gun fire from a car in Los Laureles neighborhood in the western end of Medellin.

The three policemen were about to assume escort duties for Antioquia Department Police Commander Colonel Carlos Julio Castano, near whose house the attack took place.

The new security measures that will be implemented in Medellin this week include reinforcing the Police Elite Force. The Police Elite Force will now have 220 more men who are experts in antiterror operations. In addition, 350 members of the Rifles Battalion will be deployed in the northeastern part of Medellin.

Two Policemen Killed in Attack in Medellin

PA1406023790 Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish 1200 GMT 13 Jun 90

[Text] Medellin—Two national policemen were killed and two others were wounded in an attack on a patrol car of the Antioquia Police Command. The attack occurred last night near the residence of Colonel Carlos Julio Castano Rozo, commander of the institution, in the Laureles neighborhood in western Medellin.

According to the report released by the Antioquia Police, when the patrol car stopped in front of the Cespedes drugstore on the corner of 35th Street and 80th Avenue so that one of the policemen could buy some medicine, they were attacked by a group of gunmen in a blue Renault. Policeman Luis Dario Agudero Colorado, 38 years old with 15 years of police service, was killed at the site of the attack. The three other policemen were quickly taken to the Medellin General Hospital by a courageous citizen who came to their rescue. Policeman Luis Fernando Porras, 29 years old with seven years of police service, died at the hospital. Policeman Hector Pasos Restrepo, 30 years old, the driver, and the only one who was able to open fire on the gunmen, is recovering at the Medellin hospital.

Ecuador

Reportage Examines Indian Protests, Unrest

Clash With Police

PA0606013390 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0238 GMT 5 Jun 90

[Text] Quito, 4 Jun (EFE)—As a result of the call issued by Indian organizations to stage an indefinite uprising against the government of President Rodrigo Borja, Ecuadoran Indian groups clashed with security forces in several towns in the interior of the country today.

Various radio stations, the Ecumenical Human Rights Commission [Comision Ecumenica de los Derechos Humanos—Cedhu], and leaders of the Confederation of Indian Nationalities of Ecuador [Confederacion de Nacionalidades Indigenas de Ecuador—Conaie] have reported that some 20 roads were blocked with trees and barricades erected by the Indians and that some groups clashed with police and military forces that were trying to clear the roads.

The towns where the incidents occurred are located in Tungurahua, Bolivar, Cotopaxi, Chimborazo, Imbabura, Pichincha, and Los Rios Provinces. However, because of the lack of communication, it is not yet known whether there have been incidents in the Amazon region departments, where various Indian tribes also live.

The Conaie and the Cedhu have reported that about 200 Indians who last week seized the Santo Domingo church, located near the government palace in Quito, began a hunger strike in the last few hours. Policemen have surrounded the church.

Sister Elsie Monge, president of the Cedhu, told EFE that at least six people have been arrested. She said she is concerned about the participation of the military in the operations ordered by the government. According to Presidency Secretary Gonzalo Ortiz, the government has ordered the military and police forces to act strongly but within the law.

Nevertheless, Luis Vargas, president of the Confederation of Indian Nationalities of the Amazon [Confederacion de Nacionalidades Indigenas de la Amazonia—Confeniae], told EFE that the entire Ecuadoran Amazon region will continue struggling along with all the other Indians of Ecuador. The Indians comprise 45 percent of Ecuador's population.

Vargas denied that there is foreign-advised subversive plan to attack the petroleum infrastructure, as Deputy Government Minister Luis Felix Lopez charged this weekend.

With their actions, the Indians seek, among other objectives, the legalization of the land and territory in which they live, respect for the agrarian reform law, funds for the development of bilingual education, amending the Constitution by Congress to declare the country a multinational state, and the writing off of their debts by various state-owned agencies.

Indian Killed During Crackdown

PA0706171790 Quito Radio Quito in Spanish 2300 GMT 6 Jun 90

[Italicized passages are recorded]

[Text] Santiago Morales, member of the Confederation of Indian Nationalities of Ecuador [Conaie], has reported that, regretfully, the toll of the Indian uprising that began last week is one person killed in the community of Gatazo Grande, Chimborazo.

[Morales] *To begin with, we want to report to the public that there is no sincerity on the part of the government. We complied with certain conditions set by the government, but it has not fulfilled its part.*

[Reporter] *You have reported that a person has disappeared, that there is one person wounded...?*

[Morales, interrupting] *There is one dead, the president of the community of Gatazo Grande. He was murdered by Army soldiers.*

[Reporter] *Under what circumstances, please?*

[Morales] *We still have to confirm that; we have information that the comrade was killed yesterday. In addition, we want to denounce that the comrade leaders of the Conaie and the [word indistinct] federation of Imbabura have been arrested and are missing. No authority has been able to give us any information concerning them. The comrades who are missing are: Comrade (Miguel Guatemalca), secretary general of the Indian Peasants Federation of Imbabura [Federacion Campesina de Imbabura]; Comrades Mario Conejo and (Arilu Macou), who are members of the Conaie; Comrade (Fausto Quimbo), who is currently provincial counselor and Indian leader in Imbabura; and Comrades [name indistinct]. They were arrested while traveling in an ambulance to another community. Army soldiers stopped them and forced them to climb into an Army vehicle; their whereabouts are unknown at this moment.*

President Rodrigo Borja has said that it is not fair to engage in violent actions promoted by agitators who have nothing to do with the peasants and the Indian communities to (?disrupt) peace in the country. In a speech at Santo Domingo de los Colorados, to where he traveled to inaugurate the land terminal, Borja said that these violent actions are taking place at the very time when that country is closed for an election.

[Borja] *(?That is why I insist) that the people not engage in violent movements manipulated by agitators who have nothing to do with the peasants or Indian communities to disrupt peace in the country at this moment, as we approach an election.*

My government knows perfectly well that many problems remain to be solved for the benefit of the men who till the land and the Indian communities. My government knows that in just 21 months of administration we have not been able to solve all the problems. However, the entire country knows that this is the government that has done more for the Ecuadoran Indians over the past 500 years, when they were treated with such (?tremendous) injustice, first by the colonial regimes and then by the regimes of the republic later on.

We will move forward, however. Governing means adopting decisions. Governing means working for the people. Governing means not allowing oneself to be dominated by the oligarchies. Governing means using the financial, human, and technological assets of the government to bring solutions [words indistinct].

Here is a report by (Nando Rodriguez) about the mass that was held by the Santo Domingo Church, occupied by the National Federation of [word indistinct].

[Rodriguez] *Indians and peasants have seized [words indistinct] Santo Domingo Church in Quito and are taking part in a mass at this moment. Present at the mass are the main leaders of the Conaie and Confenaie [Confederation of Indian Communities of the Amazon], among other organizations. It has been announced that after the religious ceremony is over, a march will be held to the Government Palace, where a [word indistinct] will be held to try to bring an end to the nationwide uprising that began Saturday.*

Approximately 600 people are outside the church at this moment, waiting for the mass to end to accompany the leaders to the Government Palace. The demonstrators have shouted slogans to protest the death of the Indian leader in Chimborazo and expressing solidarity with the peasants' protest movement.

The doors of the church have just been opened so the demonstrators may take part in the mass and then march to the Government Palace after it ends.

Conaie has set conditions on participating in the dialogue proposed by the government, pointing out that it demands the necessary guarantees for it to take place. Conaie added that because of the repression and violence unleashed by the government, the Indian uprising has already taken a toll of one dead, several wounded, and approximately 100 arrested. For this reason, it demands the removal of the police cordon around the Santo Domingo Church, the complete demilitarization of the province, and the release of all arrested persons. It

also asks that there be no reprisals or persecution of Indian and peasant leaders throughout the country.

In addition, Conaie asks that President Borja make a public statement with regard to the mandate to defend life and the rights of the Indian nationalities; that the mediating commission [not further identified] become a guarantor of the government's compliance with agreements; and that President Borja personally receive the commission of Indian and peasant representatives. The leaders reiterate that Conaie asked for a dialogue with the government from the very beginning.

Students Seize Office

PA0706171890 Quito Radio Quito in Spanish 2300 GMT 6 Jun 90

[Text] Fifteen university students from the Democratic University Coordinating Board [Coordinadora Democratic Universitaria] have seized the office of the vice president of the congress by surprise to show solidarity with the Indians at Santo Domingo Church. Here is a report by Fernando Luna from Congress:

[Begin Luna recording] At 1640 this afternoon, 15 university students, who are members of the Democratic University Coordinating Board for Human Rights, took the office of the vice president of the congress by surprise by showing solidarity with the Indians who seized the Santo Domingo Church eight days ago.

The seizure was peaceful and took the guards and the officials [word indistinct] congress by surprise. The students are demanding that measures be adopted [words indistinct] the situation the Indians are experiencing. [end recording]

Unrest Reported

PA1006023790 Quito Radio Quito in Spanish 2300 GMT 8 Jun 90

[Text] Approximately 20,000 Indians from 300 communities in Chimborazo Province participated today in a massive peasant march. The march was also considered a funeral because the corpse of Oswaldo Cubi Paguay, who died after being shot in Gatazo Grande, Canton Colta, was carried on top of a vehicle. The demonstration gathered at the Children's Park. The community leaders addressed thousands of Indians and urged them to march in an orderly manner through the main streets of the city, which they later did.

At approximately 1200, the main streets of the city were filled with many peasants, who marched along 10 August Street and shouted antigovernment slogans protesting the current economic crisis afflicting the people. After arriving downtown, they went to the cathedral and continued to criticize the government's actions. They later decided to move on to the Olympic Stadium at the Chimborazo Sports Complex. The stadium was too small for the thousands of Indians who gathered there, but most of them managed to enter and participate in the ceremony to bid farewell to Oswaldo Cubi. A mass is currently being held at the stadium while leaders of the various Indian communities in Chimborazo Province are meeting with the governor and the Chimborazo Province authorities at the governor's office.

The citizenry is quite worried about the lack of staples. The lack of supplies is already being felt, and there are no staples available. This causes concern, particularly among mothers. Several Indian leaders were arrested and charged with sponsoring the peasant uprisings that have caused unrest among the citizenry for several days. The unrest is caused by the violent behavior of the protesters who have entered the city of Riobamba. This causes unrest among the people engaged in their daily activities at local stores and in public and private offices. Activities have been practically suspended in Riobamba. The stores and the banks have closed down. This has caused more chaos in this Andean city.

The city of Guaranda and Bolivar Province have yet to return to normal because certain Indian communities refuse to accept the agreements signed by their leaders. The potable water supply to urban areas has been suspended for five days because the main pipe was broken twice. According to the local INOS [National Institute of Sanitation Works] representative, Gustavo Novoa Chavez, the damage was repaired yesterday, but Indians from the northern zone have again destroyed the pipes. The city is now in a critical health situation, and the people living in urban areas are angry with the authorities for not reacting. There is no potable water, and there is also no traffic because the roads to Ambato and Riobamba are still closed.

The curious thing is that while the Indian leaders accept the offers of the regional and national government representatives, the community members are still resisting and carrying out their actions. The members of certain communities from the northwestern sector of the city have slowly withdrawn but others remain. This includes the zone of Guanuja, where the destruction of the highway and major roadblocks are still being reported.

The Army and the police have managed to control the looting, particularly in shopping malls and markets, but the city has completely run out of supplies because no sales are permitted. Peasants who sell their products in the city's squares and marketplaces have been expelled, and their merchandise has been thrown into the city's rivers. Guaranda is currently facing anarchy and chaos. There is no potable water or fuel, and it is isolated from the central part of the country. The province authorities have yet to issue a report. There is anarchy in the city of Guaranda and the province of Bolivar.

Sister Elsy Monge, member of the Indian commission meeting with the government, has stated that the land ownership problem is complex and will not be easily solved. She said that it is necessary to continue the talks and study each problem and case individually.

[Begin Monge recording] This must be taken into consideration, and the cases must be reviewed and solved. The main issue is the land problem. Some cases have remained unsolved for 10, 12, or 14 years, and the expenses are high [words indistinct]. They have complied with the demand to suspend their actions and participate in a dialogue. This might be the way to solve the problem.

The problem is very complex and will not be easy to solve. It involves a long process. Therefore, it was agreed to establish a working team, which consists of eight Indian leaders and four government officials, to analyze each problem and case individually. The team is headed by the government minister. The first working meeting was held yesterday. The Indians said that it might be necessary to review each conflict separately, but we will also study possible changes. [end recording]

Governor: Uprising Manipulated

PA1006230890 Quito Radio Quito in Spanish 2300 GMT 7 Jun 90

[Text] Chimborazo Governor Lino Armijos has said that the Indian uprisings in several parts of the country were being used by some political leaders for their own benefit. He returned to the provincial capital after meeting with Indians in the Chimborazo area.

Governor Armijos arrived in Riobabma yesterday after meeting with Indians in the southern part of the province. An agremeent was reached with the Indians to leave two policemen in the Chupaya parish.

The governor gave brief statements to our reporter. He said that he believes the Indian uprisings are being manipulated by politicians. That is why the Indians did not fully support the uprisings.

Governor Armijos was in Alauji since 4 June. He flatly denied that a security agent from the governor's office had been kidnapped. He said these were false rumors aimed at creating unrest throughout the country. He called on the people of Chimborazo to remain calm.

Meanwhile, there were serious incidents involving Indians in the southern part of the province. Benjamin Bermejo, a farmer in Chunchi, received shotgun wounds in the eye. His wife and son were beaten by peasants from other sectors far from Chunchi. The peasants kidnapped and beat his wife and son, but they were freed by the citizens of Chunchi and taken to the hospital. It was unofficially reported that the attack on the farm was led by people from the Tristan area who had come to Chunchi to exacerbate the conflict. It was also reported from Chunchi that six women were kidnapped on 9 June. Their whereabouts are unknown.

It was officially reported that about 200 Indians went to the Chunchi plaza to get authorities to investigate the incidents to prove that the Indian movement has been infiltrated by people who are committing all sorts of outrages.

Tension is rife throughout the province of Chimborazo because of the latest developments. Indians from several parts of the province held two demonstrations on 9 June; they were urging the government to comply with the Indians' demands

Virgilio Perez, director of agrarian reform, said that the Ecuadoran Adminstration of Lands for Peasants is completely normal.

[Begin Perez recording] I believe that the law is being applied realistically. Therefore, we believe that the government [words indistict] is not as has been reported. Several cases are being discussed. The peasants have been given all the guarantees under the Agrarian Reform Law [words indistinct]. We are meeting with them. We are giving them an opportunity to reach solutions. [Words indistinct]. [end recording]

He said that talks with the peasants are continuing and that a solution acceptable to both parties will be reached in the next few days.

Indians To Oppose Elections

PA0906042290 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1633 GMT 8 Jun 90

[Text] Quito, 8 Jun (EFE)—It was reported in Quito today that the Indians in the Province of Pastaza in the Amazon River area have decided to prevent the legislative elections scheduled for 17 June from being held in their territory.

Antonio Vargas, president of the Organization of Pastaza Indian Communities (OPIP), has told the newspaper HOY that the OPIP has decided to join the national uprising conducted for the past few days by the Confederation of Indian Nationalities of Ecuador (Conaie).

OPIP adopted this decision after Conaie, with the mediation of the Catholic Church, started a dialogue with President Rodrigo Borjas' government to seek solutions to the Indians' demands. The start of the dialogue has allowed the reopening of several highways that had been blocked, although the national peasant uprising continues.

The OPIP, which supported the uprising four days after it started, has also prohibited representatives of political parties from entering its territories. It has suspended classes in Indian communities from 7 June until the national Indian leadership decides to end the uprising.

Conaie leader Arturo Miyuelena told EFE that although the OPIP is part of his group, just like 24 other organizations, it freely decides what steps to take regarding the uprising.

The Indian peasants of the highlands and Amazon area represent about 40 percent of Ecuador's 11 million people.

The Indian uprising, the first in Ecuador's modern history, is asking the Social Democratic government, among other things, for a solution to more than 70 land-ownerhip conflicts, respect for the Agrarian Reform Law, repeal of the tax on rural lots, funds for bilingual education, and writing off of their debts with several government agencies.

About 5.2 million Ecuadoraeans are scheduled to vote on 17 June to elect provincial deputies and provincial and municipal councils for a two-year period.

* Cordovez Visits South Korea, PRC, Japan

* Trade Ties Established

90SM0119A Quito EL COMERCIO in Spanish 3 May 90 p A3

[Text] In the immediate future, traditional Ecuadoran products will be entering the Korean market.

As a result of negotiations conducted by Foreign Minister Diego Cordovez in South Korea, Ecuador will make an initial sale of 18,000 metric tons of bananas and coffee to that country.

The value of the sales agreed upon in principle amounts to $1 million.

The Ministry of Foreign Relations also reported that, in the area of technical and financial cooperation, the Korean Government expressed its willingness to continue lending its assistance to the Ecuadoran Government following the submission of the respective projects.

In this connection, the Ecuadoran Ministry of Foreign Relations will receive a donation of equipment for the installation of a modern press room in that ministry.

Foreign Minister Diego Cordovez arrived in Seoul last Sunday, meeting with Korean President Roh Tae-Woo, to whom he conveyed a personal message from President Rodrigo Borja.

At a working session, the Ecuadoran and Korean foreign ministers reviewed various topics of international concern and all aspects of the bilateral relations between the two countries.

At the proposal of Foreign Minister Cordovez, it was decided to hold the first meeting of the Joint Ecuadoran-Korean Commission, created in 1983 in the context of the Agreement on Technical Cooperation, in Quito.

The date will be determined by the two foreign ministries, and representatives from the government and the private sector will participate in it. Their aim will be to analyze the areas in which the economic, commercial, and financial relations between the two countries could be expanded.

* Relations Strengthened

90SM0119B Quito EL COMERCIO in Spanish 9 May 90 p A3

[Excerpt] The minister of foreign relations, Diego Cordovez, concluded his official visit to the People's Republic of China, continuing his travel to Japan.

During his stay in China the foreign minister signed various instruments intended to increase Ecuadoran-Chinese trade and the flow of bilateral technical cooperation from that Asian country.

Those mechanisms include the agreement reached to establish a line of credit totaling $5 million for development projects in our country, and another to substantially increase China's purchases of Ecuadoran bananas.

On the last day of his visit to China, Cordovez met with President Yang Shangkun, who expressed his pleasure at the progress made in Ecuadoran-Chinese friendship and cooperation, while at the same time sending cordial greetings to President Rodrigo Borja. [passage omitted]

* Debt Renegotiated

90SM0119C Quito EL COMERCIO in Spanish 10 May 90 p 1A

[Text] Ecuador succeeded in rescheduling part of its debt to Japanese creditors, within the framework of the Paris Club.

The agreements signed on the occasion of Foreign Minister Diego Cordovez' visit to Tokyo are with the Economic Cooperation Fund for Ultramar, totaling 1.864 billion yen ($12 million), and with the Export-Import Bank of Japan (Eximbank) and private banks (for the Inecel [Ecuadoran Institute of Electrification] debt), amounting to 1.738 billion yen ($11 million).

In addition, an agreement was signed to rschedule the debt of the Ecuadoran Government, government corporations, and private enterprises owed to creditors residing in Japan.

Yesterday Cordovez was received by Emperor Akihito, to whom he delivered a personal message from President Rodrigo Borja.

The foreign minister also signed other agreements, such as the one for sending Japanese volunteers to Ultramar to provide cooperation, and an agreement on a loan of 8.913 billion yen ($60 million) based on the recycling fund system. The latter is for the construction of phase D of the Paute transmission system (Paute-Pascuales-Trinitaria transmission line), which will transport to Guayaquil the power (575 megawatts) to be generated by phase C of the Paute system's first stage.

An accord was also signed to begin implementing the technical cooperation agreement between the two governments, and to donate to the Ministry of Education

equipment for producing and editing educational television programs, totaling 44 million yen ($280,000).

During his meeting with the Japanese foreign minister Cordovez reported on the efforts expended by Ecuador to adjust its economy, owing to the crisis generated by the debt problem, among other factors.

Paraguay

Rodriguez Expresses Concern Over Demonstrations

PY1306233290 Asuncion ULTIMA HORA in Spanish 13 Jun 90 p 9

[Text] This morning President Andres Rodriguez conveyed his concern over the latest demonstrations to the presidents of political parties because harsh comments were made against the Armed Forces and the police. President Rodriguez also said that the government will maintain public order but that it will respect the people's rights.

The political leaders who met with Rodriguez are Domingo Laino of the PLRA [Authentic Radical Liberal Party]; Jorge Dario Cristaldo of the PDC [Christian Democratic Party]; Euclides Acevedo of the PRF [Febrerista Revolutionary Party]; Luis Maria Argana of the ANR [National Republican Association—Colorado Party]; and Aniano Denis Estigarribia of the PLR [Radical Liberal Party]. Cristaldo reported on the meeting with Rodriguez.

Cristaldo said that discussions were held on the reasons for the demonstration; the demonstration was held in protest of the remarks made by the interior minister and the support given by the leadership of the Colorado Party to the minister's remarks. Cristaldo added that President Rodriguez said his security organizations have information that there is a conspiracy—this is the term used by the president said Cristaldo—against this democratic process. The government believes that there is no real basis for the demonstrations held recently and that the government must enforce the current resolution of the Interior Ministry because there is no specific law on street demonstrations. Cristaldo added that Rodriguez reiterated his will to govern for all Paraguayans, and to lead this democratic process to a real democracy.

President Rodriguez Leaves for Washington

PY1406033290 Asuncion Radio Nanduti in Spanish 0322 GMT 14 Jun 90

[Text] President Andres Rodriguez left for the United States today for a two-day visit before going to Taiwan and South Korea. The Boeing 707 of Paraguayan Airlines carrying the president and his delegation left at 2200 local time for Washington where General Rodriguez will meet with U.S. President George Bush.

Presidential Race Begins Within Colorado Party

PY1306133290 Asuncion HOY in Spanish 13 Jun 90 p 7

[Text] Despite the fact that there are still three years to go before the next general elections —a period in which, according to the foreign minister, even cows might fly—it is no secret that the race for the presidency has already started within the Colorado Party.

In addition to the possible candidacy of Miguel Angel Gonzalez Casabianca, other persons with presidential aspirations are being mentioned, such as Luis Maria Argana and Carlos Romero Pereira, who recently resigned from the Colorado Party's executive board.

The various sectors of the party are each supporting "a friend," despite the fact that those who are being mentioned stubbornly refuse to say whether or not they are running.

Moreover, the possible candidates are already campaigning, some of them presumably even have advisers, and everything is being done to look after their images.

Obviously, all of this is being done on the hypothesis that in 1993 there will be a civilian president, as General Rodriguez has publically promised. Some rumors indicate, however, that some sectors of the Army do not agree with handing over power.

Army Asks for National Accord on Armistice Day

PY1306220690 Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 13 Jun 90 p 18

[Text] The Chief of State yesterday attended the central ceremony at the National Pantheon of Heroes marking the anniversary of the Chaco Armistice. The President arrived at 0800 and entered the pantheon where he laid a laurel wreath. Following the singing of the national anthem, General Jose Gimenez Caceres delivered a speech on behalf of the Armed Forces.

Exalting peace, the military chief urged "each Paraguayan to generously contribute his intelligence, valor, and sacrifice to its preservation, and to commit his Christian heart to the achievement of a national accord that will assure a future without disturbances in which our democratic institutions can be improved and consolidated."

After recounting the Chaco War history, Gen. Gimenez Caceres said: "Peace is the most vital nourishment for the life of nations; contributing to peace is the unavoidable duty of all good citizens, and the undeniable obligation of soldiers who pride themselves in defending and preserving it with all their actions, even with those that are in preparation for war. If you love peace, prepare yourself for war, says a proverb."

He added: "Paraguayans love and defend peace because they know of the hardships of war, because they know

that peace makes work more profitable, and because they know peace guarantees prosperity, well being, tranquillity, and happiness."

In another passage of his address, the commander of the Engineering Corps noted: "For 55 years today since 12 June 1935, our brotherly nations, having left behind the conflict that confronted them, live in peace, friendship, and cooperation."

Continuing, he said: "In the present, a renewed American spirit of integration invigorates all our countries." Then he recalled the 20th General Assembly of the OAS recently held in our capital city, which was attended by six presidents. He affirmed that in this way "we lived through days of effective friendship and cooperation," and that "the visits also proved the good relations with our brothers of the Americas with whom we aspire to forge an America that is more united, more fraternal, and more integrated so that our peoples can attain greater well being."

Addressing those who were present at the ceremony, Gen. Gimenez Caceres said: "Allow me to invite you to turn your thoughts to our heroes and to our fatherland, Paraguay, while hoisting our tricolor flag up high. Let us do so as a promise and oath to preserve our freedom, sovereignty, independence, peace, progress, and wellbeing, thus to pass on to future generations a worthy and respected country. In this endeavor, let us never default on 'Abnegation and valor, to win or die' [an Army battle cry]," Gen. Gimenez Caceres exhorted in closing.

Peru

High-Ranking Shining Path Member Arrested

PY1406124590 Lima Television Peruana in Spanish 1100 GMT 14 Jun 90

[Text] The arrest of the secretary to Abimael Guzman, the Shining Path's chief leader, has been confirmed. This announcement was made by Interior Minister Agustin Mantilla, who denied that Guzman's wife had also been arrested. He also noted that the mutiny at the Santa Barbara prison was politically motivated.

[Begin recording] [Mantilla] We had a sequence of positive developments showing that the police are acting with energy, decision, and above all intelligence.

[Reporter] Is it true that Abimael's secretary has been arrested?

[Mantilla] She is the secretary general of the Shining Path terrorist movement. She was responsible for the Shining Path's general coordination, administrative structure, and propaganda. She was the movement's main executive leader.

[Reporter] There are reports saying that the wives of Abimael Guzman and [Shing Path leader Julio] Mezzich have also been arrested. Is that true?

[Mantilla] No, they have not been arrested, but we hope to capture them soon.

[Reporter] Have they been located or cornered? Can you tell us approximately when you expect to arrest them?

[Mantilla] We cannot say we are close, but we hope to get them soon.

[Reporter] Can you affirm that Abimael Guzman is alive?

[Mantilla] There are indications, some evidence, indicating that he is still alive, but we cannot confirm it.

[Reporter] What is the situation in the (El Fenin) and Santa Barbara prisons?

[Mantilla] There is no problem there. It is a political movement promoted by one of the inmates, a person you know very well and who wants to make headlines. Sometimes he achieves his goal.

[Reporter] Is it true that you will soon begin working with the new government team?

[Mantilla] Definitely. We will begin working with them as soon as Engineer Fujimori appoints the interior transition commission.

[Reporter] Can you confirm that the police have arrested the entire Shining Path military and political command?

[Mantilla] I would rather not comment on Alto Huallaga because it is an area under a state of emergency. The Defense Ministry and the Armed Forces Joint Command are responsible for this area.

[Reporter] Is the government going to protect those who defect from the Shining Path? One of them was killed in the provinces.

[Mantilla] I am not aware of any of them being killed. The state is granting them all possible assistance. The military and political chiefs of the zones are giving them all possible help. First we have to carry out a program of psychological readaptation to make them feel at ease within our community. We might give them some material aid later to help them begin a new life.

[Reporter] Can you verify that Shining Path militants continue to defect?

[Mantilla] Yes, we have registered continuous defections in the emergency zones. It is not a massive movement but a continuous one. [end recording]

Fujimori Hopes To Visit Japan in Jun

OW1106152290 Tokyo KYODO in English 1429 GMT 11 Jun 90

[Text] Lima, June 11 KYODO—Peruvian President-Elect Alberto Fujimori, a second-generation Japanese,

said Monday that he wants to visit Japan within this month in order to ask for Japanese economic cooperation.

Fujimori told a group of Japanese journalists in a hotel in the capital that he will put forward projects requiring Japanese financial support when he meets Japanese leaders. The 51-year-old former agricultural university rector listed transportation, electricity and water supply facilities as some of the public works projects for which he will request Japanese economic assistance.

In his presidential election campaign, Fujimori, the first Japanese descendant to become president of Peru, appealed to the Peruvian voters to support strong relations with Japan. His election campaign triggered expectations of Japanese economic assistance to bolster the country's sagging economy.

However, support for Fujimori among Peru's Japanese immigrants was rather weak because they were apparently worried that the Fujimori campaign might revive some prewar anti-Japanese sentiment.

Fujimori criticized Japanese-Peruvians, saying they have confined themselves to Japanese immigrant society and have forgotten that they live in Peru. Fujimori added he will work hard for Peru, not for the Japanese immigrants.

Fujimori said he hopes to act as a go-between for the two countries and plans to visit West European nations, the United States and Taiwan to ask for bridge loans to bail out the debt-ridden country.

Fujimori told Japanese reporters that he will go to his father's native town in Kumamoto in southern Japan when he visits Japan. His mother also was Japanese but Fujimori was born in Peru.

In Japan, Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu congratulated Fujimori on his election as Peruvian president. However, deputy government spokesman, Nobuo Ishihara, ruled out the possibility of special economic assistance for Peru simply on the basis of Fujimori's Japanese heritage.

Fujimori, who defeated internationally renowned novelist Mario Vargas Llosa in Sunday's presidential election, will probably take office for a five-year term on July 28, Peru's independence day and his own birthday.

* Government Policy Criticized

90SM0075A Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish
28 Apr 90 p 2A

[Editorial by A.B.T.]

[Text] The Peruvian state needs 10 billion intis for the month of May. But it will only collect 3.5 billion in taxes.

Where will it find the remaining 6.5 billion?

In the "little machine"!

But is there a miraculous machine? This is fiction. The state will take the bills which the Central Reserve Bank orders printed in foreign countries by the ton. This is fictitious money. It is paper money without any backing. It is being turned over to the public and is feeding the most enduring and voluminous inflation rate in the world.

The citizens of Peru came together on 8 April for the most important of all civic actions—the election of their officials.

But powerful sectors linked with the government viewed the elections as if it were a trick to deceive children—another of the many fictions being circulated as truth. But as there is no secret which does not become known, gross electoral fraud was discovered in Callao. A candidate for local government office recommended by the Palace was about to be illegally elected. The facts were revealed. The candidate, the author of the crime, had been expelled from APRA [American Popular Revolutionary Alliance] but was still serving as the top official of Enapu [National Ports Enterprise]. Now many of the things which are happening with the ports and the vessels arriving in and departing from Peru are understandable!

The counting of the votes in Ancash was suspended on the orders of the JNE [National Election Board]. Serious irregularities had been found in the electoral process.

In Ayacucho as well, there was a fox in the chicken coop. All of the parties made accusations about fraudulent maneuvers favoring the government slate.

The second round of balloting will not take place in May, nor in June. Wait, O Catalina! Minister of Economy Cesar Vasquez Bazan, the very man who neglected to pay the arrears due the United Nations, exposing Peru to international ridicule, also forgot that he was required to transfer 32 billion intis to the JNE to cover the cost of the second round of balloting.

The JNE has announced that there is not enough time to order the ballots printed and to distribute them. It is possible that the second round will take place in July. But when will the transfer of power occur?

What a business!

But not everything is makeshift. The executive branch did make application, well in advance (thus showing its foresight), for delegation to it of the authority to legislate on practically everything. In this way it will in the final days, and perhaps the final hours, of its administration establish laws which will leave us before we even begin to suspect what is happening "without liberty and without democracy."

This is no exaggeration. In effect, the government "has regionalized," at its whim and pleasure. The results leap to the eye. Although the money, the calm, and the experience needed for such a major transformation are lacking, the expectations of the provinces have been raised in incredible fashion. Everyone is asking for

transfers, but there is nothing to transfer. Now the executive branch wants to legislate on matters taken over from the ILD [Freedom and Democracy Institute] laboratory. This is something which would make the hair of even men as bald as Dr. De Soto Polar stand on end.

The congress is meeting in what must be its last legislative session.

Within the realm of this leading state branch, we are also living a lie. It neither legislates nor supervises.

The financial situation is in chaos.

This legislature has been in session for a month, and there has been no debate on this problem, nor has Minister of Economy Vasquez Bazan been summoned for questioning.

After the 8 April election, the Congress could have recorded some pages which need not have been brilliant, but might at least have been worthy of remembering in this final period of a gray, cloudy, sad five-year existence. But there was nothing.

The country is a volcano. But the congress turns its back on reality, as if these things were happening at the North Pole. The Chamber of Deputies attempted to discuss the Party Law, but could make no progress. The subject is a touchy one, like mentioning rope in the house of a hanged man.

The Potable Water and Electric Light Departments have declared an emergency. Does this mean that these services will be normalized? No. This means that all kinds of equipment will be imported, without any prior bidding process. Electricity and water are rationed.

Finally, it is reported that there are currently 50,000 AIDS patients in Peru. But, as usual, the public health workers are on strike, and the state hospitals are not providing care—either to AIDS patients or to anyone else.

And after the chaos, what awaits us Peruvians? We are worse off than last week, but perhaps better off than we will be next week. A week ago, it was believed that the second round of balloting would be held in the early days of June. Now we no longer know when it will be. It was an established fact that on 28 July we would have a new president. Now we do not know what will happen. We turn, then, to the old proverb favored by the idiots who want to live from fiction to fiction. "It is always darkest before the dawn." Do you believe this, dear reader? We do not. We are truly worried. Something is rotten, not in Denmark, but in the old City of the Viceroys.

Uruguay

President Returns From OAS Meeting in Asuncion

PY0506191690 Montevideo Radio El Espectador Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 5 Jun 90

[Excerpt] President Luis Alberto Lacalle this morning resumed his activities at Government House after attending yesterday the inaugural session of the 20th OAS Assembly in Asuncion, Paraguay. [passage omitted]

Creditors Agree To Government Repurchase of Debt

PY0706200490 Montevideo Radio El Espectador Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 7 Jun 90

[Text] The creditor bank committee a few hours ago agreed to a Uruguayan proposal to repurchase all or part of our country's $1.6 billion foreign debt. High-level government sources reported that the final round of negotiations will begin after the IMF formally reports that it has agreed to the terms of the letter of intention that was recently negotiated in Montevideo.

1990 Inflation Rate Reaches 38.2 Percent

PY1306181690 Montevideo EL DIA in Spanish 6 Jun 90 p 13

[Summary] The General Directorate of Statistics and Census reported yesterday that the consumer price index increased 5.6 percent in May. The accrued increase rate for the first five months of 1990 has been 38.5 percent, and 103.85 percent over the past 12 months.

Lacalle Announces 5.5-Percent Inflation in May

PY0206145890 Montevideo Radio Carve in Spanish 0930 GMT 2 Jun 90

[Summary] President Luis Alberto Lacalle has announced that the Uruguayan inflation rate for the month of May was 5.5 percent. He also expressed his hope that businessmen would understand the government's intention to cease indexation of the economy and that there would be no escalation of inflation.

Adviser Reports 1990-1991 Economic Goals

PY1306174090 Montevideo BUSQUEDA in Spanish 7-13 Jun p 21

[Text] Economy Ministry adviser Javier de Haedo last week reported to the Senate's Finance Committee that "the program with the IMF covers 18 months and a stand-by [preceeding words in English] for fiscal year July 1990-June 1991 and the rest of 1991."

Haedo said: "The goals for this period include an inflation rate lower than 40 percent, a fiscal deficit of 2.5 percent of the GDP, and a growth rate of two percent of the GDP."

Haedo said that "the goals for 1991 include an inflation rate lower than 30 percent, a fiscal deficit of 2.5 percent of the GDP, and a growth rate of three percent of the GDP."

Vice President Hospitalized After Accident

PY0806124890 Montevideo Radio Carve in Spanish 0930 GMT 8 Jun 90

[Text] Shortly after midnight, Vice President Gonzalo Aguirre Ramirez was admitted to a downtown Montevideo hospital after a traffic accident. The newspaper LA MANANA reports that according to unofficial sources, the car that Dr. Aguirre was driving collided with a pickup truck with license number 254-660 at the intersection of Durazno and Juan Jackson Streets.

Venezuela

Escobar Gaviria Reportedly in Hiding in Apure

PA1406044890 Paris AFP in Spanish 0417 GMT 14 Jun 90

[Text] Caracas, 13 Jun (AFP)—A source of the Judicial Technical Police [PTJ] today declined to either confirm or deny to AFP in Caracas the presence of the Medellin Cartel capo Pabo Escobar Gaviria in the State of Apure in the country's southwest.

The Caracas morning newspaper ECONOMIA HOY, quoting "a source close to the state security agencies," said that the world's most sought after drug trafficking kingpin is in hiding in a Paez District hacienda in Apure along the border with Colombia in the Arauca River region.

Apure is considered a "red zone" by the Venezuelan authorities because of the presence of insurgents and cattle thieves from the other side of the border, who from time to time kidnap wealthy Venezuelan cattlemen and demand large sums of money in ransom.

"This report (about Escobar Gaviria's presence) is being processed by the state security agencies. This is all I can say," the source added.

He said, however, that the Venezuelan security agencies constantly carry out operations along the extensive border with Colombia to prevent the drug kingpins from entering the country. "These actions are even performed in coordination with the Colombian security agencies," he finally said.

Guyana

Cuban Foreign Minister Ends Official Visit

FL1306235590 Bridgetown CANA in English 2229 GMT 13 Jun 90

[Report by Courtney Gibson]

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, June 13, CANA—Cuban Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmierca ended a four-day official visit to Guyana on Wednesday contending that Cuba's relations with Guyana are "the best" it has with any country in the English-speaking Caribbean.

Malmierca also told journalists at a press conference shortly before leaving for visits to Bolivia, Ecuador and Colombia that the greatest problem now confronting Cuba is not the possibility of reduced aid from the Soviet Union or the evolving situation in Eastern Europe, but the possibility of military aggression by the United States.

He said while Cuba has relations with other English-speaking countries of the Caribbean, those relations do not have "the same intensity or quality as the relations we have with Guyana." Cuba hopes, however, that it will in the near future be able to deepen its relations with other English-speaking countries of the Caribbean. With this in mind, Cuba has embarked on a programme aimed at increasing the number of its English-speaking officials, some of whom are to come to Guyana to be trained in English. "This is proof of our will to expand our relations with the English speaking Caribbean", the Cuban foreign minister explained.

According to the official programme for Malmierca's visit, he was scheduled to pay a courtesy call and hold talks Tuesday with secretary-general of the Caribbean Community (Caricom), Roderick Rainford. He explained, however, that that aspect of the programme did not materialise because Rainford was not in Georgetown.

Malmierca said Cuba has received assurances of continued co-operation and assistance from the Soviet Union and was in a position to cope with whatever additional difficulties might arise from developments in Eastern Europe. Cubans are, however, very concerned about the attitude of the United States towards Cuba, he said. The U.S., he alleged, recently organised covert military manoeuvres directed at Cuba. Malmierca stressed, however, that Cuba is prepared to stand up to American aggression and is capable of defeating the Americans "if they ever attempt to occupy our territory".

Before leaving here, Malmierca and his Guyanese counterpart Rashleigh Jackson signed two agreements extending the validity of two earlier agreements between the two countries—a visa abolition agreement and a memorandum of cooperation between the foreign ministries of the two countries. Under the visa abolition agreement, diplomats of the two countries are not required to have visas to enter each other's country. And, under the memorandum of cooperation, the two sides have agreed to continue co-operating in areas such as the exchanging of delegations, information and experience and co-operating with the framework of the United Nations and the Movement of Non-aligned Countries.

In keeping with the latter agreement, Guyana is likely to receive assistance from Cuba in the use of computer technology in foreign service work.

Foreign Minister To Depart for Venezuela

FL1306132390 Bridgetown CANA in English 2252 GMT 12 Jun 90

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, June 12, CANA—Guyana's foreign minister, Mr. Rashleigh Jackson was scheduled to head for Caracas, Venezuela late Tuesday to begin a four-day official visit at the invitation of his Venezuelan counterpart, Dr. Reinaldo Figueredo Planchart. The Guyanese foreign minister's visit comes in the wake of Dr. Figueredo's official visit here in March.

Mr. Jackson who will be accompanied by three other officials, was scheduled to leave here after his third and final round of talks with his Cuban counterpart, Mr. Isidoro Malmierca, who is here on an official four-day visit which ends Wednesday. He and his Cuban counterpart were also scheduled to sign two agreements—one dealing with the issuing of visas and the other dealing with co-operation between their two ministries—Tuesday afternoon.

Meanwhile, according to the official Guyana Public Communications Agency (GPCA), while in Caracas, Minister Jackson and Dr. Figueredo will review bilateral relations between their two countries and analyse major international political and economic developments.

In a recent interview, Minister Jackson told CANA [Caribbean News Agency] that he and Dr. Figueredo were likely to issue a joint statement on the territorial issue between their two countries at the end of his visit to Caracas. Venezuela maintains a claim to five-eighths of Guyana's territory contending that an 1899 arbitral award is null and void. Late last year, United Nations secretary-general, Mr. Javier Perez de Cuellar, appointed Mr. Alister Mc Intyre, vice-chancellor of the University of the West Indies, as his personal representative to carry out the functions of "good officer" in the territorial issue between the two countries. Mr. Mc Intyre has since visited both capitals and held a joint meeting with Jackson and Figueredo at the United Nations.

During the visit, the two sides are also expected to discuss co-operation in a number of fields including energy and health. The discussions on energy are likely to focus on proposals now under consideration for Guyana to import electricity from Venezuela's big Guri Dam project.

Minister Jackson will be accompanied by Mr. Winston King, executive chairman of Guyana Natural Resources Agency (GNRA); Mr. Ronald Austin, a senior official at the Foreign Ministry; and Dr. Muntaz Majeed, head of the Medex Training Unit of the Guyana Agency for Health Sciences Education, Environment, and Food Policy.

Suriname

Rebels To Be Ordered Out of Production Areas

FL1306125490 Paramaribo International Service in English 1730 GMT 12 Jun 90

[Text] The government will shortly order the illegal armed groups in the country to withdraw from the production areas. This was made known yesterday at the end of a meeting of the government and members of the ruling coalition in the National Assembly. According to an official declaration, during the meeting President Shankar pointed to the problems which have arisen due to the presence of the rebel groups in the production areas. The meeting also discussed the manner in which this situation could be brought to an end, said the declaration.

The daily DE WARE TIJD reports that the government will deploy the army to chase away the rebel groups if they do not leave the production areas within a few days. The government has in this respect asked for the support of the ruling coalition in the National Assembly. The daily also reports that the question of disarming the illegal armed groups was not discussed during the meeting. According to DE WARE TIJD, many assembly members were distressed by the fact that they were not given the opportunity to question [words indistinct] during the meeting.

Minister Addresses ILO Meeting on Environment

FL1306195090 Paramaribo International Service in English 1730 GMT 13 Jun 90

[Text] The protection of the environment is part of the struggle against poverty, backwardness, and underdevelopment. The rich countries are also responsible for this and have to make a significant contribution. The Surinamese position was put forward during the 77th sitting of the International Labor Organization, ILO, by Labor Minister Romeo Van Russel. The meeting opened last week in the Swiss capital, Geneva, and the main agenda for it is the relation between environment and development.

Minister Van Russel, who addressed the meeting on Monday last, said without protection of the environment there can be no development. He pointed to the negative effects of economic development in the industrialized countries and noted that these effects are felt mostly by the poor. During the ILO meeting, the minister declared that Suriname has already taken several measures aimed at protecting the environment. Minister Van Russel will return to Suriname next week.

Trade Unions Plan Actions Against Government

FL1306142890 Paramaribo International Service in English 1730 GMT 12 Jun 90

[Station commentary]

[Text] The Government of Suriname and the trade union movement are heading on a collision course. On

the expiration of a one-week ultimatum today, the tiny Republic on the north of the South American Continent is likely to be gripped by industrial action, the strongest since the ruling Front [for Democracy and Development] coalition took office some two and one-half years ago. [passage indistinct] Last week, Tuesday, Ravaksur [Council of Trade Unions Federation] had submitted an ultimatum with six demands to the government, giving it one day to realize them. According to Ravaksur, if the demands aren't met, it will end up in strong action.

Although these actions were not identified, observers here believe they will include strikes aimed at bringing down the government, which according to Ravaksur, has a lack of willpower and failed to ease the burden from the people. Workers (?inside the) bauxite industry are, however, not expected to join in the action since they are being represented by the Council of Autonomous Trade Union Federation, (ATUF), which is not affiliated to Ravaksur.

The six demands are taken from a package submitted to the government one year ago but are yet to be realized. Among the six demands is one calling on the government to take a clear-cut policy on the National Army and the government should force all illegal armed groups in the country to surrender their arms immediately. Another of the demands calls for a regular supply of agricultural inputs and other goods and services at stable prices. Another wants the government to take effective measures against corruption, the illegal drug trade, and the so-called black market trade.

Political observers here say that the government can in no way meet these demands and expressed the fear that this failure by the government could lead to an explosive situation. In a release, Ravaksur said that by not meeting the demands which were submitted one year ago, the government has proved that it lacks the necessary political will, power, and decisiveness. According to the Ravaksur release, Suriname has reached a critical point whereby the necessary measures must be taken immediately.

During a recent meeting, the member unions of the Civil Service Organization called for changes in the government, replacing the current members by young cadres from the same parties in the front coalition. This view is, however, not shared by the chairman of the Ravaksur and president of the (?C-47), Fred Derby, who on May Day last said in an address to workers that the present government should be replaced by a national cabinet, drawing representatives from all sections of the Surinamese society.

Surinamese are facing tremendous pressures. They have to fork out large sums to pay for almost every consumer item, which in some cases are 10 times higher than the normal price. During a press conference recently, Social Affairs Minister Willy Soemita had informed journalists that the government had taken strong measures to curb the thriving black market trade. When asked to name these measures, he said he could not do so for strategic reasons. However, after this morning, black marketing and high prices continue to be order of the day. Efforts this morning to get to the government spokesman, (Bill Trademan), to comment on the situation did not yield results.

In the meantime the ruling coalition yesterday held discussions on the current political situation in the country. Although it was expected that the functioning of the government and the ultimatum by Ravaksur would be on the agenda, no word was spent on this. President Shankar, who was heading the meeting, only talked about removing the illegal armed groups from production areas. Nothing was said about disarming these groups. Some assembly members were dissatisfied with the outcome of the meeting.

For some time now, differences of opinion have surfaced among members of the government coalition. Some factions feel that the government should resign and form a new cabinet, this time naming new ministers and reshuffling some in the present outfit. The present framework of three parties in the front coalition—the National Party of Suriname of Vice President Henck Arron, the United Reformist Party of National Assembly Chairman Jaggernath Lachmon, and the Party for Unity and National Reconstruction of Deputy Chairman of the Council of Ministers Willy Soemita—share 40 of the 51 seats in parliament. All indications are that Ravaksur will implement its plan to embark on strong actions from tomorrow on. Up till now, it is unclear what will be the government's reaction.